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# THE AMERICAN **Legion**

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### 'We've got it on the car for good'

On the eve of the Allstate 400 NASCAR race July 26, Firestone Indy Lights Series car owner Jeff Matthews, 36, showed off his eFusion Energy Club car at American Legion Post 145 in Avon, Ind. On the car's hood is a Blue Star Banner decal that's getting the same kind of exposure as major Indy Racing League teams with multi-million dollar budgets.

"We're hitting major markets across the country," says Matthews, who displays the banner at no cost to The American Legion or anyone else. "We just want to do whatever we can to help military families and build awareness for this program."

James V. Carroll

*The American Legion Magazine, a leader among national general-interest publications, is published monthly by The American Legion for its 2.5 million members. These wartime veterans, working through 15,000 community-level posts, dedicate themselves to God and Country and traditional American values; strong national security; adequate and compassionate care for veterans, their widows and orphans; community service; and the wholesome development of our nation's youth.*



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Where to go and what to find in The American Legion's electronic media



Troops who've served in Iraq and Afghanistan will tell you that the "burn pit" is more than a place to dispose of camp waste. It's also a place to shoot the bull, share a laugh or a gripe out of earshot of senior officers.

**The American Legion Burn Pit** is just such a place on the Web.

This somewhat irreverent, fast-paced and fun new blog site gives Legion members and non-members alike a place to sound off on the hottest issues of the day facing our military, veterans and patriotic Americans everywhere.

<http://burnpit.legion.org>



## BETWEEN THE LINES

Additional material from selected *American Legion Magazine* articles can be found online. Look for extras from the following stories this month:  
[www.legion.org/whatsnew/magazine](http://www.legion.org/whatsnew/magazine)

### 22 *All Hands on Deck*

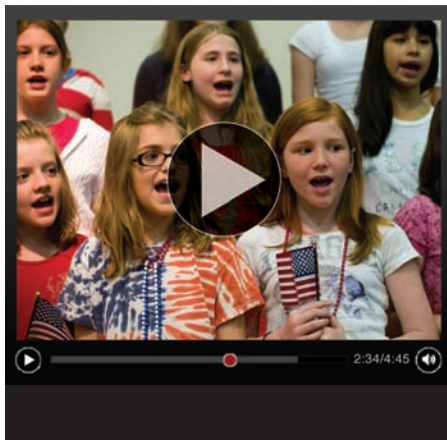
Meet Clarence Hill, the Legion's first national commander from Florida.  
[www.clarencehill.legion.org](http://www.clarencehill.legion.org)

### 48 *The Homecoming of Edwin J. Pearce* ➤

Watch Pennsylvania veterans and schoolchildren honor a missing airman recovered after 36 years.

### 52 *'A different person now'*

See a slideshow of the 2009 American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy in Prescott, Ariz.



## HOT LINKS

Great places to go online.

### *Convention on the Web*

[www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)

Unable to attend the **91st National Convention** in August? Check our Web site for key highlights and speeches from Louisville.



### *World Series recap*

[www.legion.org/baseball](http://www.legion.org/baseball)

Watch highlights or order DVDs of the **2009 American Legion Baseball World Series** from Fargo, N.D.

## MY GI BILL.ORG

### *GI Bill updates*

[www.mygibill.org](http://www.mygibill.org)

The **Post-9/11 GI Bill** took effect in August. Learn more about the changes and stay ahead of the latest developments.



### *Shooting Sports*

[www.legion.org/whatsnew/legiontv](http://www.legion.org/whatsnew/legiontv)

See the finals of the **19th annual Junior Air Rifle 3-Position National Championship** from Colorado Springs, Colo., Aug. 6-8. Sons of The American Legion donated \$2,500 in college scholarships.



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# The Last Mauser

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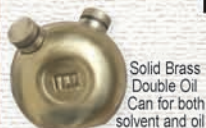
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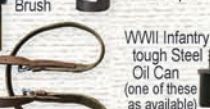
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## 'The Shelf Life of Warplanes'

At last, a true American hero is pictured on the cover of *The American Legion Magazine* (August). The F-4 Phantom was an incredible workhorse, and it breaks my heart to hear that this beautiful aircraft is being used for target practice. I had the honor of working on this machine while assigned to the 4th TAC Fighter Wing from 1966 to 1970. My memories of the Phantom will be treasured always.

— Dorian Kenkins, Bancroft, Idaho



I read your article about the F-4 Phantom and its history. It's ironic that the Navy was using F-9 Cougars and Panthers as drones and shooting them down with F-4s; now the Phantom will be a target drone. I made three cruises with F-4s in the Vietnam War, and it's an awesome aircraft. I also taught hydraulic systems on the Phantom the last four years of my naval career.

— Richard Fowler, San Marcos, Calif.

## 'America at 300'

I always look forward to receiving *The American Legion Magazine*, but it was with considerable dismay that I read "America at 300" (August). Surely something better than this article could have been found to publish in the allotted space. Trendy and politically correct with a vengeance, the main point of the article appeared to be a heavy-handed and wishful justification of the United States' current misguided foreign policy.

Reading the article, I couldn't help but wonder, "Do we really want to think like that?"

— John F. McIntyre, West Chester, Pa.

Alan Dowd's article makes the August issue by far the most interesting since I joined the

Legion four or five years ago. As a yet unpublished science-fiction writer and history buff, let me voice my own predictions.

The first female president will be elected in 2016. A general revolt against Wall Street lobbyists dictating policy – and against the way Congress conducts business – will occur, resulting in the demise of the two-party system. By 2032, the electoral system will go the way of the dinosaur. By 2059, we'll have a world body called the United Nations of Planet Earth, with none having veto power. Weapons of mass destruction will be outlawed and stockpiles destroyed. The world will get rid of nuclear waste by shooting it into space, and nuclear fusion will be the main source of energy 100 years from now.

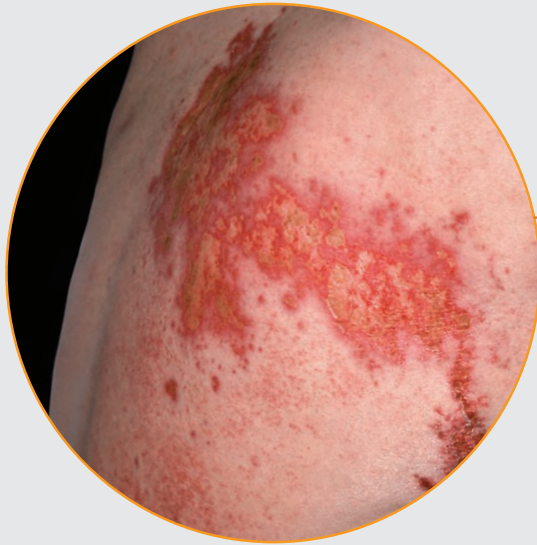
— Jack Golding, Hugoton, Kan.

## 'The Birth of a New GI Bill'

I was the school certifying official at Ohio State University from August 1993 to December 1998. Although I've been away from that position for over 10 years, I am concerned that VA may be initiating an information campaign that will shift the blame for problems about to be encountered in the implementation and administration of the Post-9/11 GI Bill from VA itself to



**IMAGINE THIS BLISTERING RASH ALONG WITH STABBING PAIN**



**AND YOU'LL HAVE AN IDEA OF  
WHAT IT CAN BE LIKE TO HAVE SHINGLES.**



For more information on the availability of ZOSTAVAX through the Merck Vaccine Patient Assistance Program, visit [www.merck.com/merckhelps](http://www.merck.com/merckhelps) or call 1-877-9 SHINGLES.



## **IF YOU HAD CHICKENPOX AS A CHILD, YOU COULD GET SHINGLES NOW.**

### **The chickenpox virus is still in your body.**

It can resurface as Shingles, a painful, blistering rash. The Shingles rash usually lasts up to 30 days, and for most the pain lessens as the rash heals. But some people who develop Shingles experience long-term pain that can last for months, even years.

### **ZOSTAVAX is a vaccine that can help prevent Shingles.**

ZOSTAVAX is used to prevent Shingles in adults 60 years of age or older. Once you reach age 60, the sooner you get vaccinated, the better your chances of protecting yourself from Shingles. ZOSTAVAX is given as a single shot. ZOSTAVAX cannot be used to treat Shingles, or the nerve pain that may follow Shingles, once you have it. Talk to your health care professional to see if ZOSTAVAX is right for you.

### **Important Safety Information**

ZOSTAVAX may not fully protect everyone who gets the vaccine. You should not get ZOSTAVAX if you are allergic to any of its ingredients, including gelatin and neomycin, have a weakened immune system, take high doses of steroids, or are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. Possible side effects include redness, pain, itching, swelling, warmth, or bruising at the injection site, as well as headache. You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch) or call 1-800-FDA-1088. Before getting vaccinated, talk to your health care professional about situations you may need to avoid after getting ZOSTAVAX. Please see the Patient Product Information on the adjacent page.

Before you get **Shingles**, ask about ZOSTAVAX.

**ZOSTAVAX**<sup>®</sup>  
Zoster Vaccine Live

[www.zostavax.com](http://www.zostavax.com)



9815608

**Patient Information about  
ZOSTAVAX® (pronounced "ZOS tah vax")  
Generic name: Zoster Vaccine Live**

You should read this summary of information about ZOSTAVAX<sup>1</sup> before you are vaccinated. If you have any questions about ZOSTAVAX after reading this leaflet, you should ask your health care provider. This information does not take the place of talking about ZOSTAVAX with your doctor, nurse, or other health care provider. Only your health care provider can decide if ZOSTAVAX is right for you.

**What is ZOSTAVAX and how does it work?**

ZOSTAVAX is a vaccine that is used for adults 60 years of age or older to prevent shingles (also known as zoster).

ZOSTAVAX contains a weakened chickenpox virus (varicella-zoster virus).

ZOSTAVAX works by helping your immune system protect you from getting shingles. If you do get shingles even though you have been vaccinated, ZOSTAVAX may help prevent the nerve pain that can follow shingles in some people.

ZOSTAVAX may not protect everyone who gets the vaccine. ZOSTAVAX cannot be used to treat shingles once you have it.

**What do I need to know about shingles and the virus that causes it?**

Shingles is caused by the same virus that causes chickenpox. Once you have had chickenpox, the virus can stay in your nervous system for many years. For reasons that are not fully understood, the virus may become active again and give you shingles. Age and problems with the immune system may increase your chances of getting shingles.

Shingles is a rash that is usually on one side of the body. The rash begins as a cluster of small red spots that often blister. The rash can be painful. Shingles rashes usually last up to 30 days and, for most people, the pain associated with the rash lessens as it heals.

**Who should not get ZOSTAVAX?**

You should not get ZOSTAVAX if you:

- are allergic to any of its ingredients.
- are allergic to gelatin or neomycin.
- have a weakened immune system (for example, an immune deficiency, leukemia, lymphoma, or HIV/AIDS).
- take high doses of steroids by injection or by mouth.
- are pregnant or plan to get pregnant.

You should not get ZOSTAVAX to prevent chickenpox.

Children should not get ZOSTAVAX.

**How is ZOSTAVAX given?**

ZOSTAVAX is given as a single dose by injection under the skin.

**What should I tell my health care provider before I get ZOSTAVAX?**

You should tell your health care provider if you:

- have or have had any medical problems.
- take any medicines, including prescription medicines, and dietary supplements.
- have any allergies, including allergies to neomycin or gelatin.
- had an allergic reaction to another vaccine.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.
- are breast-feeding.

Tell your health care provider if you expect to be in close contact (including household contact) with newborn infants, someone who may be pregnant and has not had chickenpox or been vaccinated against chickenpox, or someone who has problems with their immune system. Your health care provider can tell you what situations you may need to avoid.

**What are the possible side effects of ZOSTAVAX?**

The most common side effects that people in the clinical studies reported after receiving the vaccine include:

- redness, pain, itching, swelling, warmth, or bruising where the shot was given.
- headache.

The following additional side effects have been reported in general use with ZOSTAVAX:

- allergic reactions, which may be serious and may include difficulty in breathing or swallowing. If you have an allergic reaction, call your doctor right away.
- fever
- hives at the injection site
- joint pain
- muscle pain
- rash
- rash at the injection site
- swollen glands near the injection site (that may last a few days to a few weeks)

Tell your health care provider if you have any new or unusual symptoms after you receive ZOSTAVAX.

**What are the ingredients of ZOSTAVAX?**

Active Ingredient: a weakened form of the varicella-zoster virus.

Inactive Ingredients: sucrose, hydrolyzed porcine gelatin, sodium chloride, monosodium L-glutamate, sodium phosphate dibasic, potassium phosphate monobasic, potassium chloride.

**What else should I know about ZOSTAVAX?**

Vaccinees and their health care providers are encouraged to call (800) 986-8999 to report any exposure to ZOSTAVAX during pregnancy.

This leaflet summarizes important information about ZOSTAVAX.

If you would like more information, talk to your health care provider or visit the website at [www.ZOSTAVAX.com](http://www.ZOSTAVAX.com) or call 1-800-622-4477.

**Rx only**

Issued April 2009

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schools' certifying officials. Philip Callaghan's interview of Keith Wilson, VA's director of education services, may be part of such a campaign (August).

Wilson referred to a "long-standing relationship" between VA and schools' certifying officials. He is correct. When I was a certifying official, there was a long-standing relationship in which VA was able to cover up its inability to process initial claims for GI Bill education benefits in a timely manner by blaming school certifying officials.

In my experience, there was never any problem getting verification of enrollment forms to the VA regional office in Buffalo, N.Y. The problem was getting VA to process the forms they received. It could take up to 60 days for the enrollment form information received from us to be logged into VA's database. It could take another 30 days from the date VA finally logged the information before it was processed by an adjudication officer.

The Buffalo Regional Office would boast it had a 30-day turnaround time when it was actually closer to 90 if you counted the 60 days that forms sat in the regional office's mail room (or on someone's desk) waiting to be entered into the database. During that 60-day period, VA was free to claim it had not yet received verification of enrollment from the school, and direct angry veterans back to school certifying officials.

As far as "keeping certifying officials up to speed on benefits," that's a joke. Wilson should

worry about keeping VA personnel up to speed.

I agree that the Post-9/11 GI Bill is a "fabulous piece of legislation" that, in my opinion, is long overdue. But when things start to get ugly during the upcoming fall school term, don't be surprised when VA blames delays and processing jams on school certifying officials.

— Stephen Grinch, Bellefontaine, Ohio

### Cap-and-trade legislation

Regarding the pros and cons of a cap-and-trade energy policy (Big Issues, August), I've wondered what the impact would be on a polluting industry. If I produce tires in the United States and am punished by this new policy, why wouldn't I move my company to India or China? Now I can produce with far fewer restrictions and the bonus of cheap labor. Cap-and-trade will result in more pollution, not less, as production shifts from clean U.S. companies to dirtier foreign countries. Any true environmentalist would want the reverse to happen.

— Martin R. Wellens, Shorewood, Minn.

Rep. Bruce Braley, D-Iowa, says that adding a tax on energy will lower its price in the long run. But he doesn't give us one example where this has happened before. In Washington state, we pay an 8-percent sales tax on goods we buy. This has not lowered the cost of the goods we purchase; instead, they're more expensive.

We should be trying to increase our energy output any way we can. We produce our

energy with less pollution than most other countries, and this would create more good-paying jobs for us. What most elected officials don't understand is that we need jobs, not additional taxes placed on us.

— Greg Schlieve, Grandview, Wash.

### 'Tinnitus? You're Not Alone'

Your article on tinnitus (Living Well, August) is excellent, but you didn't explain that service-connected tinnitus is compensated by VA. Like many veterans, I was exposed to repeated and prolonged loud noises, which resulted in the development of tinnitus. Subsequently, I applied to VA and, after appropriate examination, was granted a service-connected disability pension and medical benefits.

I would urge any veteran who believes his tinnitus is service-connected to contact an American Legion service officer for assistance in making a claim.

— Ralph Dean, Walnut Creek, Calif.

My wife and I both have tinnitus problems. We attended a lecture on the subject at Oregon Health & Science University, where a clinic was starting a major study on tinnitus. It was stated that tinnitus is not actually in the ear. It begins in the ear from a noise problem, but tinnitus resides in the brain. The proof offered for this startling statement was that at least one person was so miserable, he had the nerve connection severed by a surgeon. His tinnitus problem persisted.

— Jimmer Kennedy, Portland, Ore.

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# Invest in more F-22 aircraft



## SUPPORT

### Rep. Phil Gingrey, R-Ga.

■ Gingrey is a former member of the House Armed Services Committee.

Since President Obama's nearly \$1 trillion stimulus program was enacted in February, meaningful economic recovery and job creation has been slow to materialize. Having been quick to commit tremendous resources and with little now to show for it, the president has seemingly decided that the Department of Defense is the only place to slow growth.

For instance, his budget request included \$1.2 billion in cuts for missile defense. On the same day his budget came before the House Armed Services Committee, he said a nuclear-armed North Korea would be a "grave threat." Ditto for Iran. Even more egregious was Obama's decision to terminate the F-22A Raptor program at 187 aircraft. This was a political decision, advised almost exclusively by Secretary of Defense Robert Gates. It certainly did not take into account the counsel of Gen. John Corley, the commander of Air Combat Command, who made clear that "there are no studies that demonstrate 187 F-22s are adequate to support our national military strategy."

The president's position ends F-22 production nearly 200 aircraft short of the Air Force requirement (validated by over 30 air-campaign studies) and turns a blind eye to the mounting military capabilities of China and Russia, both of whom are developing Raptor-like fighters.

While Obama hustled his \$1 trillion stimulus bill through Congress, \$1 billion to adequately fund missile-defense programs and \$1.75 billion for additional F-22s was deemed too costly. As a result, nearly 100,000 jobs in 44 states will be lost.

As if to recoup the trillions of taxpayer dollars he has already piled onto the national debt, it is clear where President Obama intends to find his offsets. We must oppose this misguided strategy.



## OPPOSE

### Rep. Mike Quigley, D-Ill.

■ Quigley serves on the House Judiciary Committee and House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq have taught us that the weapons of the Cold War are not well suited to the asymmetric challenges our nation faces around the world. The House of Representatives' defense authorization bill allocated funding

for 12 extra F-22 fighter jets beyond what President Obama requested. Costing \$140 million each, these come on top of the 187 F-22s already provided for in the bill. The president was so concerned by the inclusion of the additional F-22s that

he issued a veto threat, and the House and Senate eventually voted to stop F-22 production.

Were these extra F-22s necessary for our national security? Defense Secretary Robert Gates didn't think so. He has been a vocal opponent of funding the 12 extra F-22s, saying the idea that not buying them imperils our national security is "completely nonsense." He also observes that "we are fighting two wars, in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the F-22 has not performed a single mission in either theater."

By cutting the extra 12 F-22s, we could invest in body armor, armored tanks and low-tech equipment such as unmanned drones that are effective in Iraq and Afghanistan, and keep our soldiers out of harm's way. Every dollar spent to build more F-22s is a dollar we can't spend in these more vulnerable areas. The Defense Department says the hourly cost of flying the F-22 exceeds \$50,000 – almost 167 percent of hourly operating costs for the F-22's predecessor, the F-15. Apparently, the F-22's radar-absorbing metallic skin is vulnerable to rain, and the jet requires 33.8 hours of maintenance for every hour of flight time.

Is the F-22 worthy of our enormous investment? The answer is clearly no.

## THE HEART OF THE ISSUE

*Critics say the purchase of extra F-22A Raptors is unnecessary for our national security. Supporters say terminating the aircraft's production will give China and Russia a leg up on military capability.*

## CONTACT YOUR LEADERS

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## STATE OF STRESS

A study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention between 2003 and 2006 reports that 10 percent of Americans are coping with frequent mental distress, up from 9 percent in an earlier study. The findings were released in April and reported by *Forbes* magazine.

"West Virginia had the highest percentage of residents – 14.9 – who reported frequent mental distress" the report stated. Alabama, Arkansas and Indiana also reported high percentages.

At the other end of the stress spectrum, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, Montana, Wisconsin and Illinois all came in at under 8 percent of residents reporting frequent mental distress. At 6.6 percent, Hawaii had the lowest percentage of residents with frequent mental distress – no surprise for a state where the unofficial motto is "hang loose."



## Is your diet stressing you out?

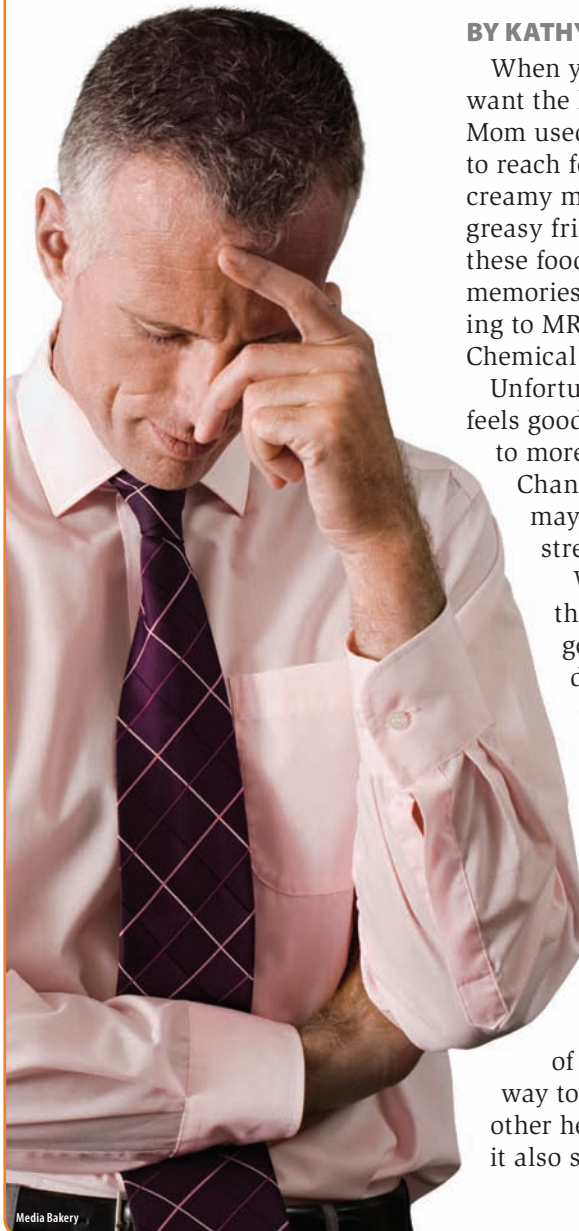
BY KATHY SUMMERS

When you're under stress, you want the kind of comfort food Mom used to make. You're likely to reach for warm apple pie, creamy mac and cheese, and greasy fried chicken. You crave these foods based on sensory memories of better times, according to MRI studies at Monell Chemical Senses Center.

Unfortunately, the food that feels good going down may lead to more stress down the road. Change the food, and you may actually lower your stress levels.

When you look at the chemical reactions going on in the body during a sudden or chronic stress response, you can see the connection between diet and stress. The fight-or-flight hormone adrenaline and the stress hormone cortisol kick in during high levels of anxiety and stress. "The chronic release of cortisol is a sure-fire way to invite weight gain and other health problems, and it also stimulates you to eat

*continued on page 16*



## SEARCHABLE RECIPES

The Department of Health and Human Services has a variety of healthy recipes sorted in almost every way imaginable: breakfast, lunch and dinner; appetizers and desserts; vegetarian, fish and meat; soups and salads; even by how long it takes to prepare. Dig in at [www.health.gov/dietaryguidelines/dga2005/healthieryou/html/recipes.html](http://www.health.gov/dietaryguidelines/dga2005/healthieryou/html/recipes.html).



## THE POWER OF PRUNES

The fiber in dried plums is known for helping regulate digestion. But it turns out prunes may help build better bones, too. Laboratory studies have shown that compounds in the dried fruit enhance the body's ability to mineralize and build bone.





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continued from page 14

more,” says Amy Hendel, a registered physician’s assistant and author of “Fat Families, Thin Families” and a regular on ABC’s “Good Morning America” and CBS’ “The Early Show.”

When stress triggers these chemical changes and you eat the wrong food – salt, sugar, saturated fat – you alter your metabolism, throw your electrolytes out of balance, and increase your risk of heart disease and diabetes. To get your body back in balance, you want to eat foods that reduce the impact of those chemicals rather than worsen their effect, Hendel says.

Obsessing about your diet, however, can create a feeling of living from one meal to the next. Focusing too much on what you eat can actually cause more stress because it becomes like an addiction, says G. Frank Lawlis, author of “The Stress Answer.” Rather than binging on the wrong foods or obsessing about proper diet, plan for stressful situations by always having healthy food that you enjoy in your house. For example, stock the fridge with bananas, cantaloupe, watermelon and

turkey – all foods that provide tryptophan to promote muscle relaxation and create serotonin for brain health, Lawlis says. The nutrients in almonds strengthen the immune system, which helps the body fight against the ravages of stress, he adds. Even the act of chewing the crunchy nut may relieve stress and anxiety.

For the same reason, chewing gum also lowers stress. “When you chew, you flood the temporal lobe in the front of your brain with chemicals that help you de-stress,” Lawlis says. “You’re actually reducing anxiety as you chew.”

Skip foods high in white sugar. The body responds in a drastically different way than to natural sugar, the kind you get from orange juice, says Lawlis, who calls sugar “the white poison.” If you eat processed sugar, especially in the morning, you never get that chemical balance back. “You’re dealing with stress all day with a dulled brain.”

Too much stress, combined with too much salt, is a double whammy for people who are prone to high blood pressure. Experiment with herbs, spices and salt substitutes. Avoid

foods that don’t taste good without tons of salt piled on them.

If you really must have that cheeseburger, make it on a whole-grain bun or open-faced on one piece of bread, Hendel says. Consider using chopped lean chicken or turkey instead of high-fat ground beef. And choose a lighter cheese.

High-quality proteins are essential for restoring the body during stressful periods. Don’t overlook the humble bean as a versatile nutrient-dense protein source, Hendel says. You can eat a stress-busting bean burrito or a steaming bowl of chili or bean soup. Just make sure the dish contains lots of veggies, and season it with herbs and spices such as cumin and curry rather than salt.

As a protein source, eggs are brilliant because you can do so much with them, Hendel says. She suggests making an omelet stuffed with leftover vegetables and then rolling it into a whole-grain tortilla wrap.

*Kathy Summers writes about health, nutrition and travel for national magazines and custom publications.*



## PACE YOURSELF

Everyone knows exercise is good for the heart, but just how fit do you need to be to live longer or prevent a heart attack? At age 50, women who can walk continuously at a 3 mph pace and men who can walk at 4 mph have a significantly lower risk for heart disease, heart attack and early death, according to a study reported in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

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## Vitamin 'D'efficiency

Best known for keeping bones strong, vitamin D may also help prevent cancer, dementia, heart disease, diabetes and autoimmune diseases. Vitamin D's benefits would be cause for celebration if it weren't for one small detail: most people are deficient in it. In fact, recent studies have concluded that 61 percent of children and teens may have insufficient levels of vitamin D. The situation is so alarming that the American Academy of Pediatrics doubled its recommendation for vitamin D from 200 IU to 400 IU per day for infants and children, and many pediatricians are requiring all their young patients to have their vitamin D levels checked.

Children are not the only ones who need to be monitored. Adults, particularly the elderly, are also at great risk for insufficiency. Vitamin D is produced by the skin when it is exposed to sunlight, yet the UV rays of sunlight can also lead to skin cancer. Therefore, in order to safely increase vitamin D levels, physicians recommend getting just 10 to 15 minutes of direct sunlight per day. Vitamin D supplements and eating foods rich in vitamin D can also help meet an adult's needs of approximately 1,000 IU per day.

## SOURCES OF VITAMIN D



Although vitamin D is notoriously difficult to get in a diet, the following foods can help:

**3.5 oz salmon**  
cooked  
360 IU

**1 tbsp cod liver oil**  
1,360 IU

**1 cup fortified milk**  
nonfat, reduced fat  
and whole  
98 IU

**3 oz tuna fish**  
canned in oil  
345 IU

**3.5 oz mackerel**  
cooked  
345 IU

**1 whole egg**  
vitamin D is found in  
yolk  
20 IU

**3/4 to 1 cup fortified  
cereal**  
40 IU\*

**1 tbsp fortified  
margarine**  
60 IU

**1.75 oz sardines**  
canned in oil  
345 IU

**1 oz Swiss cheese**  
12 IU

\* Vitamin content  
varies per brand.

Media Bakery

## VA WEB SITE TRAINS COLLEGE COUNSELORS TO HELP STUDENT VETERANS

College is challenging enough for the average student, but for academically-minded troops returning home from overseas deployments, the transition can be especially difficult.

To assist student veterans, VA maintains a Web site, [www.mentalhealth.va.gov/college](http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/college), intended to strengthen the connection between college mental-health professionals and combat veterans studying on their campuses. Launched

in May, the site educates college counselors on how to counsel student veterans dealing with mental-health issues and concerns. The site includes online modules centering on suicide prevention, post-traumatic stress disorder and alcohol abuse.

VA's site also serves as a resource for veteran students wanting to learn more about challenges they may face in adjusting to life after the military.



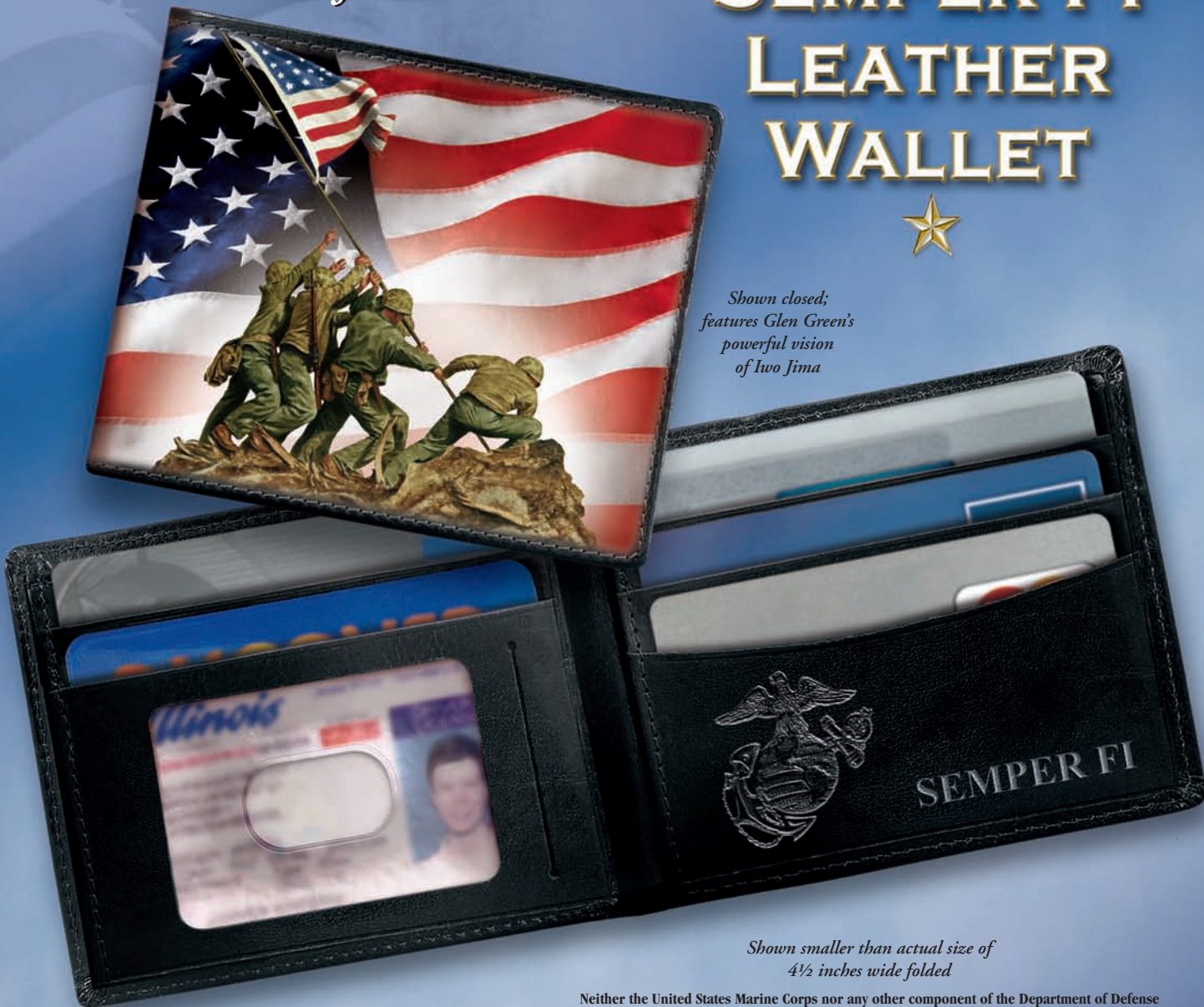


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*Shown closed;  
features Glen Green's  
powerful vision  
of Iwo Jima*



*Shown smaller than actual size of  
4½ inches wide folded*

Neither the United States Marine Corps nor any other component of the Department of Defense has approved, endorsed or authorized this product.

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embossed inside  
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# Timely budgets would ease VA stress

BY TOM PHILPOTT

To protect hospitals and clinics from budget interruptions tied to political wrangling in Washington, Congress is moving this year to put the VA health-care system on an advanced funding cycle – a step The American Legion and other veterans service organizations have urged.

In recent years, Congress has routinely been two to four months late in passing VA funding bills, forcing medical facilities to operate under continuing budget resolutions that freeze spending at previous-year levels.

Without new budgets that reflect inflation and revised VA health-care enrollments, hospitals and clinics have had to delay hiring staff, making facility repairs and buying sufficient inventories of drugs, equipment and other supplies.

Last year, the Legion and eight other VSOs formed the Partnership for Veterans Health Care Budget Reform. The organization was formed to educate lawmakers, and the Bush administration, on the impact that chronic budget delays have on VA health care – and how advance funding would address the problem. Last fall, the House and Senate Veterans Affairs committee chairmen got behind it.

Initially, the Obama administration – like its predecessor – opposed advance funding for the nation's largest system of hospitals and clinics. That changed in April when the president announced that VA would work with Congress on an advance appropriations bill, so VA clinics and hospitals no longer would suffer a budget hiccup each fall.

Steady progress has been made since then, both in the House and the Senate, on two separate types of legislation. One, crafted by the Veterans Affairs committees, would authorize advance funding and create oversight mechanisms to monitor its effectiveness and the accuracy of cost projections.

This bill, the Veterans Health Care Budget Reform and Transparency Act of 2009 (H.R. 1016, sponsored by Rep. Bob Filner, D-Calif., and S. 423, sponsored by Sen. Daniel Akaka, D-Hawaii), was passed by the House in July and by the Senate in August.

The bill directs the president to submit estimates of budget dollars needed for veterans health-care accounts a year in advance. Another provision directs the VA secretary to report annually to Congress on the sufficiency of medical resources appropriated for the coming year, to include



estimates of patient workload and demand for services.

A third directive requires the U.S. comptroller general, who heads the Government Accountability Office, to study the adequacy and accuracy of VA projections for health-care expenditures (as far out as five years) and to report the findings to appropriate congressional committees.

This package of provisions is very close to what the partnership for reform endorsed.

On a second legislative track, taken by the appropriations committees, is a bill to ensure that actual budget dollars are advanced for VA health care a year early. The fiscal 2010 appropriations bills, drafted by these committees, would fund VA health accounts for the fiscal year that begins this month and for fiscal 2011, too.

If, ironically, the VA appropriations bill doesn't get passed on time again this year, VA health-care facilities may have to endure another tight budget for a few months. But this would be their last year of uncertainty.

However, the House already has passed its VA appropriations bill (H.R. 3082). The Senate version (S. 1407) cleared the appropriations committee July 7 and was awaiting consideration by the full Senate. The advance appropriations portion of the bill includes \$48.2 billion for fiscal 2011. That amount is for planned medical services (\$37.14 billion), medical support and compliance (\$5.31 billion), and medical facilities (\$5.74 billion).

*Tom Philpott, a former Coast Guardsman, has written about veterans and military personnel issues for more than 30 years.*



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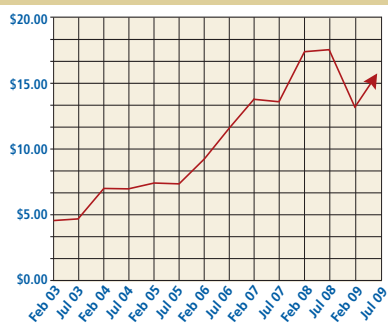
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Silver Trend Chart: Prices based on monthly averages. ©AMS, 2009.



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# ALL HANDS ON DECK

*The American Legion's first national commander from Florida, retired Navy captain Clarence Hill, calls on members to engage a new generation.*

BY MATT GRILLS

A U.S. flag that flew from the main mast of USS *McInerney* during the liberation of Kuwait has a place of honor, hanging inside American Legion Post 316 in Atlantic Beach, Fla. It was a gift from life member and three-time post commander Clarence Hill.

In January 1991, the *McInerney*, a guided-missile frigate, left Mayport, Fla., to protect carrier forces conducting strikes from the Red Sea and later the Arabian Gulf as part of Operation Desert Storm. Arriving in mid-February, Hill took command of *McInerney* pierside in Bahrain a week before the ground war. The frigate escorted the battleship *Wisconsin* through mined waters to within miles of occupied Kuwait and performed anti-air, anti-surface and mine countermeasures as *Wisconsin* fired its 16-inch guns.

"We destroyed 11 floating mines in seven days at one point," Hill recalls. "It was pretty nasty stuff. Oil fires were everywhere, and the closer you got to the shore, the blacker it got. We wore face masks. You could hardly see the sun."

*McInerney* searched sea lanes using an embarked SH-60B LAMPS III helicopter and two Army AHIP (OH-58D) helicopters, escorting more than 50 ships transporting relief supplies to Kuwait City. The frigate earned the Navy Unit Commendation, the National Defense Service Medal, the Southwest Asia Service Medal with Bronze Star, and the Kuwait Liberation Medal.

For Hill, the Gulf War tour was a fitting capstone to a 24-year Navy career. Commissioned from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1972, he spent 19 years on sea duty. His afloat service included two destroyers, two cruisers and officer-in-charge of a PT boat; he also served on the staffs of Cruiser-Destroyer Group 12 in Mayport, and Sixth Fleet in Gaeta, Italy. He commanded the Naval Communications Station United Kingdom in Thurso, Scotland, for three years and a frigate for two years. He retired in 1996.

"I never consciously decided to make it a career," he says. "The Navy just kept sending me places we enjoyed."

Hill joined The American Legion in 1983, at the urging of his wife, Liz, who wanted to join the Auxiliary. Only after he left the Navy, though, did

PHOTOS BY TOM STRATTMAN



Hill really dig in. He started as a counselor at Florida Boys State, then took on the role of district Boys State chairman. Later he volunteered as district and department Oratorical chairman.

Hill's mentor and Florida's National Executive Committeeman at the time, George Derrick, encouraged him to keep moving up. He did just that, going on to be elected post commander, district commander, area commander, department vice commander, and in 2002-2003, department commander. He also served on the National Legislative Council and the National Membership & Post Activities Committee, and spent three years as chairman of the National Security Commission.

"When you don't say no, they keep piling on," he jokes. "Truth is, I liked what I was doing. I liked what the Legion was doing. I liked that I could continue to serve after retiring."

At The American Legion's 91st National Convention in Louisville, Ky., in August, Hill was sworn in as national commander – the first from the Department of Florida. He may be the organization's most plugged-in commander yet, with followers on Twitter and accounts on popular online networking sites such as Facebook and LinkedIn. He also has a place of his own on The American Legion's national Web site: [www.clarencehill.legion.org](http://www.clarencehill.legion.org). An all-new National Headquarters Web site will launch during the week of Veterans Day 2009.

A bigger, better presence in cyberspace is imperative if the Legion is going to thrive in the



*The first national commander from Florida takes a moment to reflect at Jacksonville's Veterans Memorial Wall, one of the largest veterans memorials in the nation.*

new century, says Hill, who is known locally, regionally and nationally as a "membership guy." As Florida's department commander, he led the state to an all-time high in membership, and his home post just logged its 18th all-time-high membership. He has received eight Gold Brigade Awards by signing up 50 or more new Legionnaires a year over the past nine years.

A stronger Internet presence, he says, is critical to growing membership. "I don't think we're doing anything near what we should be doing with technology. Posts need to get into social networking and have their own blogs. I tell departments the same thing. The Legion needs to be looking to the future and doing what will make it attractive to younger veterans."

**Buckeye Boy.** Hill grew up in Martins Ferry, Ohio, along the river and in the foothills of the Appalachians, with two brothers and three sisters. Another brother came along when he was in his junior year at the Naval Academy. "My mother had kids in four decades – the '40s, '50s, '60s and '70s," he says. His father was a Navy fireman who joined near the end of World War II and spent the rest of his life working for Ma Bell. The elder Hill never talked much about his time in service: "All he ever told me was, 'When they said I could leave, I left.'"

Sports were Hill's life as a young man. In school, he was co-captain of the



**TOP LEFT:** American Legion National Commander Clarence Hill talks with Lt. Karen Thomas, who serves as auxiliaries officer on the USS McInerney, the ship he commanded during the Gulf War.

**ABOVE:** A blue-cap Legionnaire from Post 316 in Atlantic Beach, Hill made a name for himself locally, regionally and nationally as a membership builder, receiving eight Gold Brigade awards in nine years.



### TOP TEN THINGS YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT CLARENCE HILL

**10** He calls Jacksonville, Fla., home, but he doesn't fish, swim or go in the ocean. "I'm not big on having my toes in the sand, either," he says.

**9** Growing up, his favorite superhero was Thor, the Norse god of thunder and legendary warrior.

**8** When he picks up his granddaughters, Kadence and McKenzie, at day care, all he has to do is whistle and they come running.

**7** He can't abide misspellings and grammatical errors. "Somebody I knew wrote a book once and gave it to me to read," he says. "I couldn't stop circling things."

**6** He played football, basketball, baseball, soccer, squash, racquetball, handball and even rugby at the U.S. Naval Academy. So it's a surprise to hear that Hill was 38 when he finally tried golf. "I hold the club like a baseball bat because I still haven't figured out the finger thing," he says. "It took about a year for me to get it off the ground consistently."

**5** He likes the old military movies, including "Twelve O'Clock High," "The Caine Mutiny" and "Operation Petticoat," starring Cary Grant.

**4** In all his time at sea with the Navy, he never once was seasick.

**3** He often forgets his cell phone. "Some days I wonder if it's intentional," Liz says.

**2** He's a fan of single-malt scotch.

**1** When he commanded the Naval Communications Station in Thurso, Scotland, he had the honor of sitting next to the Queen Mother on three different occasions during the Highland Games. When she learned that his wife, Liz, was born and raised in Thurso, the Queen Mother gave the couple a private tour of her castle.

basketball team and lettered two years; he lettered in football and track three years. He is a diehard Pittsburgh Steelers fan, and his boyhood hero was Ohio State Buckeye and Boston Celtics star John Havlicek, who was born in Martins Ferry.

"I still follow the Celtics, but not like I used to," says Hill, who laughs when he remembers the time his wife bought him and his stepson tickets to see the Celtics and the 76ers in a playoff game when Hill was stationed at the shipyard in Philadelphia. "We got back and she asked, 'How'd Havlicek do?' I said, 'Well, he's doing pretty good, I guess. He retired three years ago.' She'd bought the tickets so I could see him play."

Hill met Liz in Norfolk, Va., in March 1974, when he was an ensign on board the destroyer *Claude V. Ricketts*. The crew was hosting a German ship, and a member of the wardroom put together a party at a clubhouse. Liz was there, and Hill was smitten.

"I had to keep leaving to drive the Germans, and I asked her if she was going to be there when I got back," he says. "She said, 'Yeah,' but she wasn't, and I didn't have her name or number or anything. But two bachelors I lived with did. So I stole her number and called her." They married Oct. 30, 1976.

Liz was divorced and had three young children at the time, and Hill has been like a father to them, she says. They have six grandchildren, and the four youngest – Kadence, McKenzie, Amelia and Fionna – have "Pampa" wrapped around their fingers.

"He spends a lot of time with them," Liz says. "They're going to miss him probably more than any of us this year."

Hill works as a contract manager for Allegiance Security Group, a security-guard service in Jacksonville. The position gives him the flexibility



Hill works as a contract manager for Allegiance Security Group in Jacksonville, run by branch manager Fred Johns.



needed for his commitments to The American Legion, and branch manager Fred Johns says Hill will definitely have the job back when his stint as national commander ends.

“He’s extremely intelligent,” Johns says. “He’s also very detail-oriented, and in this business, you have to be. You’ve got to cross those T’s and dot those I’s. He does a tremendous job. There’s no limit for him, really.”

**Ready to Lead.** His Post 316 family is proud to see Hill representing the Legion on the national stage – starting with Liz, who works as the post’s food and beverage manager, to members who were around long before Hill donned a blue cap.

Lee Austin, a Korean War Navy veteran and Post 316’s finance officer, met Hill when he joined the Legion. He’s watched him advance through the ranks, setting post, district, area and state membership records along the way.

“He’s served in all the right positions, so he really knows the Legion – what it stands for, what it does,” Austin says. “He also has the ability to lead people, and I think he’ll make an outstanding national commander.”

Mike Amig, a fellow Navy vet, got involved in Post 316 after leaving active duty in 2004. Before Amig was elected post commander last year, Hill spent a lot of time showing him the ropes, he says.

“I was asking questions of how to be a better Legionnaire, of what needed to be done, and Clarence was the one who had all the right answers,” Amig says. “If anybody understands The American Legion and its purpose and its process, it’s him. He’ll lead the Legion into its next chapter. He’ll be a great commander.”

As for Hill, he says he’s interested in helping the Legion craft ongoing initiatives that will increase membership, rather than think up a few “one-year wonders” that would end when he leaves office.

He advocates long-range planning to grow the Legion. Hill wants to hear suggestions, from the post level on up, on how to reach out and meet the



*Clarence and Liz Hill love to spend time with their family. The youngest four of their six grandchildren are, from left, Fionna, 1, Kadence, 4, Amelia, 3, and McKenzie, 2.*

needs of all veterans, particularly those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Hill is convinced that district commanders must step up. “They’re the ones with their fingers on the pulse of each of their posts, and they need to be visible, making sure that posts are doing the programs and providing that community presence that makes us the grassroots organization Congress listens to,” he says.

Meanwhile, posts can’t keep doing business the way they’ve always done it – not when younger veterans are communicating and congregating online. Hill says posts might have to buy more computers, go wi-fi and set up Internet cafés. To serve families, they should consider starting day care or after-school programs. To support the troops, they have to be there when soldiers deploy or ships return to port.

“There are people out there with ideas who need to contribute,” he says. “I don’t see myself as much of a visionary, but I hope we’ll look back on this year and say we have initiatives in place that are going to last a lot longer than Clarence Hill lasted, and that the Legion has a vision of the future that’s achievable and will make us grow again.” 🌿

*Matt Grills is associate editor for The American Legion Magazine.*

# Amish mantle and miracle invention help home heat bills hit rock bottom

*Miracle heaters being given away free with orders for real Amish fireplace mantles to announce the invention that helps slash heat bills, but Amish craftsmen under strain of early Christmas rush force household limit of 2*

**Save money: only uses about 9¢ electric an hour; so turn down your thermostat and never be cold again**

By MARK WOODS  
Universal Media Syndicate

(UMS) Everyone hates high heat bills. But we're all sick and tired of simply turning down the thermostat and then being cold.

Well now, the popular HEAT SURGE® miracle heaters are actually being given away free to the general public for the next 7 days starting at precisely 8:00 a.m. today.

The only thing readers have to do is call the National Distribution Hotline before the 7-day deadline with their order for the handmade Amish Fireplace Mantle. Everyone who does is instantly being awarded the miracle heater absolutely free.

This is all happening to announce the HEAT SURGE Roll-n-Glow® Fireplace which actually rolls from room-to-room so you can turn down your thermostat and take the heat with you anywhere. That way, everyone who gets them first can immediately start saving on their heat bills.

Just in time for winter weather, portable Amish encased fireplaces are being delivered directly to the doors of all those who beat the deadline.

These remarkable fireplaces are being called a miracle because they have what's being called the *Fireless Flame*™ patented technology that gives you the peaceful flicker of a real fire but without any flames, fumes, smells, ashes or mess. Everyone is getting them because they require



■ **GENUINE AMISH MANTLES MADE IN THE USA:** Everyone wants to save money on heat bills this winter, so entire Amish communities are working from the crack of dawn to finish. These fine real wood Amish made fireplace mantles are built to last forever. The oak mantle is a real steal at just two hundred ninety-eight dollars because all those who beat the order deadline by calling the National Hotline at 1-866-874-7770 to order the fireplace mantles are actually getting the imported hi-tech *Fireless Flame* HEAT SURGE miracle heaters for free.

no chimney and no vent. You just plug them in.

The *Fireless Flame* looks so real it amazes everybody because it has no real fire. So what's the catch? Well, soft spoken Amish craftsmen who take their time hand building the mantles have a process that forces a

strict household limit of 2 to keep up with orders.

"We can barely keep up ever since we started giving heaters away free. With winter just around the corner, everyone's trying to get them. Amish craftsmen are working their fingers to the bone to be sure everyone gets their delivery in time for Christmas," confirms Frederick Miller, National Shipping Director.

"These portable Roll-n-Glow Fireplaces are the latest home decorating sensation. They actually give you a beautifully redecorated room while they quickly heat from wall to wall. It's the best way to dress up every room, stay really warm and slash your heat bills all at the same

time," says Josette Holland, Home Makeover Expert.

And here's the best part. Readers who beat the 7-day order deadline are getting their imported hi-tech miracle heaters free when encased in the Amish built real wood fireplace mantles. The mantles are being handmade in the USA right in the heart of Amish country where they are beautifully hand-rubbed, stained and varnished.

You just can't find custom made Amish mantles like this in the national chain stores. That makes the oak mantle a real steal for just two hundred ninety-eight dollars since the entire cost of the miracle heater is free.

This free giveaway is the best way to slash heating



■ **JUST ANNOUNCED:** The Heat Surge miracle fireplace has earned the prestigious Good Housekeeping Seal. The product has earned the Seal after evaluation by the Good Housekeeping Research Institute.

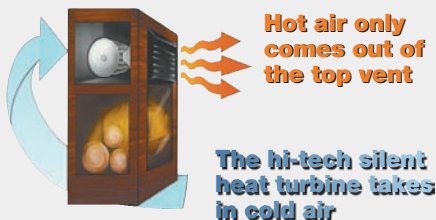


## HEAT SURGE™ Fireless Flame™

**How It Works:** The HEAT SURGE miracle heater is a work of engineering genius from the China coast so advanced, you simply plug it into any standard outlet. It uses only about 9¢ of electric an hour on the standard setting. Yet, it produces up to an amazing 5,119 BTU's on the high setting. So watch out, a powerful on board hi-tech heat turbine silently forces hot air out into the room from the vent so you feel the bone soothing heat instantly. It even has certification of Underwriters Laboratories coveted UL listing. It also comes with a limited full year replacement or money back warranty less shipping plus a 30-Day Satisfaction Guarantee. OH and FL resident transactions require the remittance of applicable sales tax. Sorry no shipments to MA residents.



LISTED: E322174



# How to get 2 free heaters

The National Toll Free Hotlines are now open. All those who beat the 7-day order deadline to cover the cost of the Amish made Fireplace Mantle and shipping get the HEAT SURGE miracle heater free.

A strict limit of 2 per household has been imposed. Since some home woodworkers want to build their own mantle piece, they are letting people get the imported miracle heater alone for just \$249. Or, with the Amish made mantle you get the miracle heater free.

Use the map below to locate the weather zone you live in and call the Hotline number for your zone.



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**Cold Zone: 2**START CALLING AT  
8:30 A.M. TODAY

1-866-881-2882

EVERYONE LIVING IN THE

**Frost Zone: 3**START CALLING AT  
9:00 A.M. TODAY

1-866-882-8558

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**ON THEIR WAY:** Early Christmas orders have turned country roads into pipelines to the big city delivery system. Everybody wants a fireplace that comes fully assembled with a handmade Amish mantle in oak or cherry finish and gets delivered by truck right to your door. All you do is plug it in.

bills and stay warm this fall and winter. The HEAT SURGE Roll-n-Glow Fireplace gives you zone heating and all the beauty and warmth of a built-in fireplace but rolls from room-to-room so it can also save you a ton of money on heating bills.

Even people in California and Florida are flocking to get them so they may never have to turn on their furnace all winter. And since it uses

only about 9 cents of electric an hour on the standard setting, the potential savings are absolutely incredible.

"We are making sure no one gets left out, but you better hurry because entire communities of Amish craftsmen are straining to keep up with demands. For now, we are staying out of the large national retail stores in order to let readers have two per household just as long as they call before the

deadline," confirms Miller.

It's a really smart decision to get two right now because for only the next 7 days you get both miracle heaters free. That's like putting five hundred bucks right in your pocket and you can save even more money on your monthly heating bills.

"Everyone's calling to get one but those who are getting their Christmas shopping done early are surprising the whole family by

getting two. So when lines are busy keep trying or log onto [amishfireplaces.com](http://amishfireplaces.com). We promise to get to every call. Then we can have a delivery truck out to your door right away with your beautiful Heat Surge Roll-n-Glow Fireplace," Miller said.

"You'll instantly feel bone soothing heat in any room. You will never have to be cold again," he said. ■

On the worldwide web:

[www.amishfireplaces.com](http://www.amishfireplaces.com)

**Rolls anywhere to throw an instant heat wave with no chimney, no vents, no wood and no smoke**



**EASILY ROLLS ANYWHERE:** This is the portable Roll-n-Glow® Fireplace that easily rolls from bedroom to living room to keep you warm. No vents, no chimney and no tools. Just plug it in.



**SAVES ON BILLS:** Everyone can get low bills and stay warm and cozy. The Roll-n-Glow Fireplace saves a ton of money and makes your front room look like a million bucks.



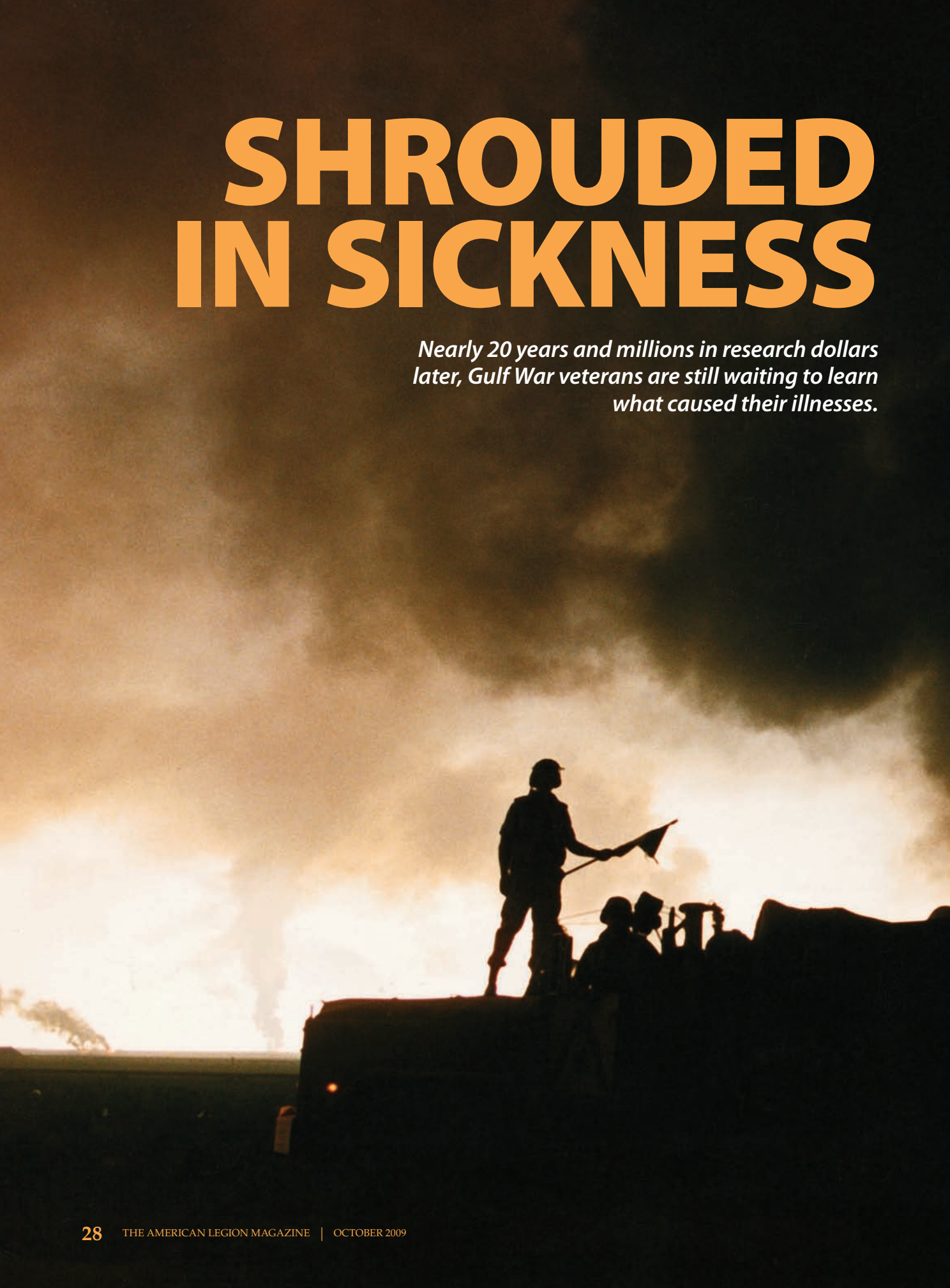
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# SHROUDED IN SICKNESS

*Nearly 20 years and millions in research dollars later, Gulf War veterans are still waiting to learn what caused their illnesses.*





BY MARGARET DAVIDSON

**OF THE 697,000 U.S. TROOPS** who served in the 1990-1991 Persian Gulf War, about one in four suffer from illnesses related to the conflict, according to the Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses (RAC). Eighteen years later, many of these ailing veterans have symptoms for which no treatment has yet been found.

RAC's findings, released in November 2008, could help accelerate a search for medical relief by emphasizing that "studies consistently indicate" that Gulf War illnesses are not caused by combat stress, as some have suggested. In fact, the report points out that Gulf War vets have lower rates of post-traumatic stress disorder than veterans of other wars, and it accuses government officials of impeding the search for treatments by suggesting that stress is the main culprit.

The low level of reported PTSD is not surprising, since the ground war only lasted four days. But in that brief conflict, an estimated 175,000 to 210,000 servicemembers might have encountered something that could

jeopardize their health for the rest of their lives.

What was to blame? Ironically, the advisory panel believes the most likely causes were defensive measures designed to protect the troops: pills to protect them against nerve agents and pesticides to protect from disease-carrying insects.

The RAC report says, "The extensive body of scientific research now available consistently indicates that Gulf War illness is real, that it is the result of neurotoxic exposures during Gulf War deployment, and that few veterans have recovered or substantially improved with time."

While finding that evidence strongly indicates the pyridostigmine bromide (PB) pills used to protect troops against nerve agents and pesticides "are causally associated with Gulf War illness," the report says other exposures cannot be ruled out. They include low-level exposure to nerve agents, close proximity to oil-well fires and inoculation with multiple vaccines.

The multiple concurrent symptoms typically include some combination of



Corbis

chronic headaches, gastrointestinal problems, widespread pain, unexplained fatigue, chronic diarrhea, respiratory problems, skin rashes, and persistent memory and concentration problems.

The RAC's findings aren't met entirely with agreement. A battle seems to be brewing between the RAC and the Institute of Medicine (IOM), which has authored nine congressionally mandated reports on Gulf War health issues.

In response to VA's request for an explanation of discrepancies between findings by the two groups, IOM President Harvey Fineberg responded that "most of the environmental hazards reviewed have not been found to explain illnesses experienced by Gulf War veterans." He acknowledged the RAC report may have reached different conclusions due to access to more recent scientific studies and said that such a possibility would be explored in IOM's review, scheduled for completion in February.

The RAC drew heavily upon clinical and epidemiological studies of Gulf War veterans, as well as recent toxicological studies – some of which used methods that have only recently been developed, the committee says.

Findings include observations of differences in the structure and function of the brains of ailing vets. Past routine medical evaluations often found no physical basis for the illnesses.

Some researchers have also identified differences in the function of ill veterans' autonomic nervous systems, which regulate involuntary physiological activities, such as circulation and breathing, and report that some vets have neuro-endocrine and immune alterations.

VA is withholding judgment on the RAC's conclusions. Lawrence Deyton, its chief public health and environmental hazards officer, says the agency won't respond to the RAC report until the Institute of Medicine reviews it. "VA has traditionally, and by law, relied upon the IOM for independent and credible reviews of the science behind



## THE PROBLEM WITH PESTICIDES

Operation Desert Storm was a buggy place, so extensive measures were taken to ward off insects and the infectious diseases they can carry. Flea collars were wrapped around the legs of cots and worn over clothes and shoes; pesticide sprays, creams and liquids were issued for use on uniforms, bedding and skin; and environmental fogging and spraying were applied to surfaces where servicemembers lived, ate and worked.

Troops who served in the region during earlier campaigns had high rates of pest-borne diseases, and the Pentagon wanted to protect them from that risk. It was, apparently, successful – few were infected with insect-spread illnesses.

The U.S. military used a huge variety of pesticides in the Middle East. At least 64 of them (and related products) were available for use and contained 37 active ingredients, according to a 2003 DoD report. Fifteen of them were singled out as "pesticides of potential concern," including lindane powder, used to delouse enemy prisoners and given to our troops as well.

Products were often used in quantities beyond their recommended amounts. For example, a label warned that permethrin was to be sprayed on uniforms just once every six weeks, or after six laundings. But some veterans say they used it almost 30 times a month.

Recent research suggests pesticide use may cause chronic and multisymptom health problems, even at levels where no acute symptoms are experienced.

According to the Research Advisory Committee report released last year, "In community and occupational studies, chronic low-level exposure to pesticides has frequently been associated with increased rates of symptoms and multisymptom illness similar to those affecting Gulf War veterans."

Apparently, current servicemembers do not face similar pesticide exposure after what was learned from the Gulf War. DoD has called for a 50-percent reduction in pesticide use at military installations, changes in the products used, and improved training and certification of those applying pesticides.

But weighing risks in the battle against bugs can be a complex challenge, as indicated in the current war. Pesticide use is down, but there is a rise in the number of cases of "Baghdad boil," a skin infection caused by a single-celled parasite transmitted from sand-fly bites.



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these particular veterans' health issues," he said in his statement for a May 19 congressional subcommittee hearing on Gulf War illnesses.

DoD's deputy director of force readiness and health assurance, R. Craig Postlewaite, also pointed to differing findings in his prepared statement for the hearing. He wrote that "based on many research studies, the IOM concluded that there are no unique symptoms or a unique pattern of symptoms in the veterans of that war."

Whatever the cause of the reported ailments, they have apparently not, at least at this point, shortened average life spans of veterans deployed during the Gulf War. The veterans do, however, have higher rates of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), or Lou Gehrig's disease.

Furthermore, an elevated rate of brain-cancer deaths has been reported in veterans who were potentially exposed to low levels of nerve agent when U.S. troops demolished Iraqi munitions caches at Khamisiyah in 1991. Only in 1996 did DoD announce that thousands of servicemembers might have been exposed to low levels of the nerve agents sarin and cyclosarin. Those chemicals can adversely affect the nervous system in ways similar to the effects of PB pills and pesticides.

The effort to determine how many veterans may have been exposed to chemical agents was complicated by the postwar disappearance of many U.S. Central Command logs of reported chemical incidents, and limited capabilities of monitoring equipment.

Even if the RAC is correct in pointing to the causes of illnesses, treatments remain undiscovered. Its report stresses the importance of further research in meeting that goal: "A clearer understanding is needed of how identified biological abnormalities contribute to veterans' persistent symptoms, and how findings in different areas interrelate with one another. Most importantly, additional research is needed to determine how biological findings in veterans with Gulf War illness can be most



## THOSE LITTLE WHITE PILLS

To what extent did the pills Gulf War veterans took to protect themselves against nerve gas contribute to health problems later in life? Answering that question has been made more difficult because of a breakdown in DoD documentation of how the pills were administered.

That failure came despite ethical concerns already swirling about a waiver that allowed the pills to be used without the informed consent of troops ordered to take them.

Because the PB pills had not been approved by the Food and Drug Administration, they had to be administered under an investigational new drug (IND) classification. This class of medication may generally be used to treat and to provide research support for final FDA approval – only if recipients give their informed consent.

DoD got a waiver on the informed-consent requirement by arguing that securing such consent was not feasible in battlefield conditions. It also maintained that if troops chose not to take the PB pills (as well as an unapproved botulism vaccine for which DoD also received a waiver), such action would put themselves and their units at risk.

In response, the FDA determined that obtaining informed consent from military personnel in some combat-related situations was not feasible. But guidelines required that DoD collect data on the products' use. Because it failed to do so, Gulf War veterans don't have that information in their medical records and may not mention such exposure when seeking medical care.

After that compliance snafu, new guidelines were created. Only the president can grant waivers of consent for the military. Recipients must also be informed about the risks, benefits and potential side effects of the drugs they are to take.

DoD's record-keeping system, the FDA insisted, "must be capable of tracking and will be used to track the proposed treatment, from supplier to the individual recipient." Furthermore, DoD must provide adequate follow-up to assess results and pursue a drug's further development.

Some ethicists argue that waiving consent requirements violates the Nuremberg Code, adopted after World War II in response to wartime Nazi experiments on concentration-camp prisoners.

Supporters of a military waiver say the Nuremberg Code authors did not anticipate situations in which certain drugs could provide the only means to avoid death or serious harm in combat operations.

– Margaret Davidson



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usefully applied to identifying diagnostic tests and beneficial treatments.”

The RAC report is among hundreds of studies and investigations of Gulf War illnesses. The U.S. government spent \$340 million from 1994 to 2007 on projects identified as Gulf War research, mainly funded by DoD and VA.

The RAC report questions the effectiveness of those explorations. “Substantial federal Gulf War research funding has been used for studies that have little or no relevance to the health of Gulf War veterans, and for research on stress and psychiatric illness,” it states. The RAC especially finds fault with IOM reports that “have particularly fallen short in advancing understanding of associations between Gulf War exposures and Gulf War illness.”

The committee report does applaud a recent shift away from the focus on stress and psychiatric disorders, which it says began in 2006. A crucial aspect of that direction is a VA-funded center of excellence for Gulf War research at the University of Texas Southwestern. Focusing on identifying biological abnormalities associated with Gulf War illness is what may help develop diagnostic tests and treatment.

Sick veterans continue to press for more research funding to find effective treatment. Paul Sullivan, executive director of Veterans for Common Sense, blames DoD and VA for lack of greater progress. In his statement for the May 19 subcommittee hearing, he wrote “While the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs say they will assist our ill Gulf War veterans, the two agencies often fight against our veterans. The two agencies fight against scientific research into toxic exposures.”

Is enough being done to find treatments that will cure all these symptoms? “As an ill Gulf War veteran who has worked on this issue for 17 years,” Sullivan wrote, “the answer is no. Absolutely not.” 🌿

*Margaret Davidson is a freelance writer and frequent contributor to The American Legion Magazine.*

## UNEXPECTED REACTIONS

*“While we were still in Dhahran, we started taking pyridostigmine bromide pills, which were supposed to protect us against exposure to nerve gas. About three days after I started taking the pills, my eyes were jittery, my vision was jumping, I was seeing double, and I was nauseated. By the fourth day, I was vomiting a little blood, so I went to sick call. They told me to cut the dose in half and said there was nothing to worry about. At least I no longer vomited blood.”*

PB pills were to be given in advance of a feared nerve-agent attack; troops were issued packets of 21 pills. They were to take one every eight hours as a pre-treatment but only if ordered to do so by unit commanders.

They were part of a three-drug regimen that included the antidotes atropine and 2-pralidoxine chloride – to be injected after an attack. The Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans’ Illnesses claims the pills are one of two most likely causes of ailments that have haunted veterans for nearly 20 years.

Servicemembers were to down the pills before a soman (extremely toxic nerve agent) attack because, otherwise, the deadly chemical irreversibly inactivates a crucial enzyme within minutes, resulting in overstimulated nerve endings that can lead to a variety of problems, including stoppage of breathing.

The same pre-treatment is not needed to protect against the nerve agent sarin, because victims have several hours to mitigate its effect with post-exposure antidotes.

About half of U.S. Gulf War veterans report having used PB while deployed. The amount of pills taken varied widely, with an average of 26 consumed in any given month. Some, especially those living in the desert, reported taking even more.

Side effects were worse than expected, surveys indicate. One unit’s medical officers reported that about half of its soldiers experienced side effects, with gastrointestinal ailments the most common. The severity came as a surprise because patients with myasthenia gravis (a neuro-muscular disease) have been taking PB effectively for many years.

Servicemembers’ side effects seem to have foreshadowed longer-term problems. U.S. and U.K. veterans who reported they had acute side effects from the pills during the war also reported having significantly higher rates of illness six to 10 years later. The more pills they took, the more likely they were to experience ongoing ailments.

During the Gulf War, DoD had to get a waiver to administer the pills because they were not FDA-approved as a pre-treatment against nerve agents. PB is now approved by the FDA to protect against soman.

During a congressional subcommittee hearing on Gulf War illnesses last spring, R. Craig Postlewaite, DoD’s deputy director of force readiness and health assurance, was asked if there would be any change in the military’s planned use of PB. He replied that DoD would continue its use as needed but document it much better – by keeping daily records and linking that information to an electronic record. “We view it as a very important tool,” he said.

The other option – not to use PB pills in the event of nerve-agent exposure – could be a deadly one.

– Margaret Davidson





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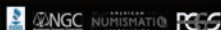
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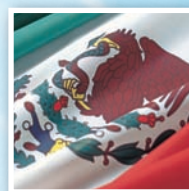
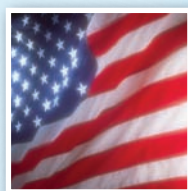
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# THE TROUBLE WITH TRILATERALISM

*Critics charge that the Security and Prosperity Partnership  
is just another name for “North American Union.”  
Fair analysis or over-reaction?*

BY ALEXANDER MOENS

In 2005, the United States, Canada and Mexico agreed to a series of talks on various subjects related to product standards and government regulations, including border security. The off-spring of those talks is the Security and Prosperity Partnership, formed to put an umbrella over a variety of working groups connected to the North American Free Trade Agreement, which took effect in 1994.

The catalyst for the SPP initiative was 9/11. The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, lowered the levels of predictability and stability in conducting business throughout North America. Post-9/11 security measures created, in effect, a “security tax” on NAFTA trade, and the SPP was put in place to create “an efficient border, open for business but closed to terrorists,” according to a 2007 report published by the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Regrettably, the SPP also created an army of conspiracy theorists on both sides of the border.

**Close Friends.** The SPP initiative is a reflection of important mutual economic interests. In 2005, two-way trade between Canada and the United States equaled nearly \$2 billion per day. Total bilateral trade between the two countries has exceeded \$500 billion every year for the past seven years and, in 2007, accounted for 18 percent of total U.S. trade. Canada is the largest trading partner for 37 of the 50 U.S. states, creating an estimated 7 million U.S. jobs.

While Canadians and Americans trade in a wide range of products and services, manufacturing trade has developed a uniquely close relationship since the post-World War II Defense Production Agreement, the 1965 Auto Pact and the 1989 Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement.





In essence, U.S. and Canadian companies make things together.

They have developed integrated supply chains in various sectors, such as automobiles and machinery, where parts cross the border numerous times until the final product is finished in either country. Canada and the United States also have large bilateral flows of foreign direct investment (FDI). In 2007, U.S. FDI in Canada formed 58 percent of total investment, while 44 percent of Canada's FDI went to the United States.

Mexico was the United States' second-largest export market in 2005 and third-largest import market after China. Total trade that year was just under \$300 billion. Trade among all three countries has grown strongly since the passage of NAFTA, when the United States began treating Canada and Mexico in a single North American file. This kind of treatment was much to the

chagrin of Canadians, who prefer a separate bilateral relationship. Given that Mexico is still a developing economy, still struggles with high levels of corruption, and has an enormous problem of illegal outflow of people into the United States, Canadian officials generally believe they can make better progress on economic and border issues in a one-on-one format, rather than a three-way dialogue.

Similarly, many U.S. citizens would rather see security arrangements negotiated with Ottawa than Mexico City. Trust was built on decades of U.S.-Canada cooperation in the security sphere. The United States and Canada, for instance, are founding members of NATO and since 1958 have been partners in the North American Aerospace Command Agreement, which created the North American Aerospace Defense Command, or NORAD.

Since NAFTA, the United States has trilateralized the process, partly because it is politically difficult to treat Mexico as a second-class North American partner. The SPP is a recent example of the trilateral approach.

**The SPP's Benefits.** Since the start, SPP goals and methods pursued by the three governments have been pragmatic and modest. None of the governments set out to create a common external tariff or common market, let alone a North American community with supranational institutions and new legal structures, like the European Union, as some academics and study groups recommended. The SPP was not intended to create a North American EU.

Instead, 20 working groups – 10 on security and 10 on prosperity – were set up to deal with issues such as trade expansion, border crossings, regulations and product standards, food safety, emergency preparedness, sustainable environment and energy security. The leaders agreed to conduct annual summits to review progress in these areas. Importantly, they agreed that the SPP would not be allowed to limit national action. The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, by which the U.S. government is phasing in passports for entry into the United States by Canadians, is one such example.

In June 2005, cabinet officials from the three governments proposed some 300 regulatory issues for trilateral resolution in the first so-called “Report to Leaders.”

At the 2006 Cancun Summit, the leaders agreed to set up an advisory group representing companies involved in cross-border business – the North American Competitiveness Council (NACC) – to winnow down the 300 issues.

The NACC identified 50 recommendations, with 15 ready for implementation in 2007, including support for critical infrastructure protection, pandemic emergency management, border pre-clearance projects, liberalization of NAFTA rules of origin and certification, intellectual property rights,

and measures against counterfeiting and piracy.

By 2008, the SPP had produced several modest but helpful results. It produced agreements between the United States and Canada on the simultaneous exchange of information between national laboratory networks to deal with the spread of infectious disease, and on increasing compliance data sharing, staff exchanges and joint training for cross-border pipelines.

The SPP also finalized the harmonization of air-navigation standards. Another important

achievement was the liberalization of rules of origin for exporters of household appliances, precious metals and various machinery parts so such products can qualify as duty-free. These liberalized rules were estimated to apply to \$30 billion worth of trade by May 2006 and another \$70 billion by 2008.

In short, the changes reduce export-related transaction costs, saving consumers money in all three countries.

On the security side, Canada and the United States have led the way with a security accord verifying vessels entering the St. Lawrence Seaway, reciprocal recognition of container security regulations used in dangerous-goods transportation, an “open-skies” air-cargo transportation agreement, and a pilot project to share information on refugee and asylum claimants, based on a comparison of fingerprint records.

**The SPP's Critics.** Despite its pragmatic approach and modest outcomes, the SPP has generated considerable criticism, especially in Canada and the United States.

In Canada, the SPP is opposed by economic and cultural nationalists. They argue that the partnership offers the United States a channel to encroach on Canadian sovereignty and gain access to such resources as water. Other Canadian critics call the SPP “a back-door way” for business to achieve deregulation by means of harmonizing Canadian standards down to U.S. levels, in what a 2008

<b>The payoffs of partnership</b>	
<b>The NAFTA economy</b>	\$17 trillion among a three-nation population of 444 million people
<b>Total U.S.-Canada trade in goods (2008)</b>	\$600.6 billion
<b>Total U.S.-Mexico trade in goods (2008)</b>	\$367.1 billion
<b>Total Canada-Mexico trade (2006)</b>	\$21.5 billion
<b>U.S. exports to NAFTA partners</b>	32 percent of all U.S. exports in 2008
<b>U.S. imports from NAFTA partners</b>	26.4 percent of all U.S. imports in 2008

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Trade in Goods with Mexico; U.S. Census Bureau, Trade in Goods with Canada; Office of the United States Trade Representative; NAFTA Office of Mexico in Canada



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paper published by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives describes as a “race to the bottom.”

Such allegations are false. The regular process of government decision-making also applies to SPP. If a new regulation emerges from the SPP agenda that involves a new rule in federal decision-making, it will be published in either the U.S. Federal Register or the *Canada Gazette*, and time will be made for consultation before a final decision is reached. Moreover, the objective in regulatory cooperation is to build on each other’s capacities in research, development and testing. The goal is to eliminate duplication and promote cooperation.

In the United States, CNN broadcaster Lou Dobbs and various bloggers have raised the specter that the SPP is a secret plan to form a North American union akin to the European Union. Rumors about a NAFTA super-highway keep surfacing, although the SPP does not address such a project. The objectives and results of the SPP are posted on all three countries’ Web sites; there is no secret infrastructure and no monetary or economic union in the making.

Others believe that the Bush administration used the SPP as a vehicle to normalize the flow of illegal immigrants from Mexico. The fear that U.S. border controls will be weakened by SPP standards is understandable but unfounded, given efforts made during the second term of the Bush administration to fortify the border with Mexico.

Moreover, while there is an enormous problem of illegal entry, drug smuggling and violent incidents on the Mexican border, there is also a largely legal and orderly flow of people and goods between Mexico and the United States.

It is the latter component of the cross-border flow that the SPP addresses, and it does so aiming not to replace or compromise U.S. border security measures.

**Stronger Together.** Today the SPP brand has been marginalized. Little progress was made at the 2008 Summit in New Orleans, and the 2008 U.S. presidential election put the process on hold. However, it is inevitable that the issues and interests that drove the SPP into existence will eventually return to the U.S. agenda.

It clearly is in America’s interest to continue the SPP, but it cannot be done in a trilateral format. The fact is, on many regulatory, product standards and border issues, the United States shares a much closer relationship with Canada than it does with Mexico. The United States needs to set up a separate forum with Canada for three main reasons:

■ First, with 51 percent of Canada’s total exports to the United States going out by truck, and 77 percent of imports from the United States coming in by truck in 2006, low-cost border crossing should be an integral part of our trade policy. Regulatory differences on processing customs manifests and security documents are a proven barrier to cross-border trade. Currently, commercial costs for crossing the U.S.-Canada border (in terms of time losses) are estimated at between 2 and 3 percent of the total two-way trade value. A new bargain on lower-cost commercial flows will need to be struck.

■ Second, given the growth of Asian imports and the 2008 global credit crisis, the U.S. and Canadian manufacturing sectors have experienced a perfect storm. Both face the challenge of how to maintain their comparative advantages. Canada and the United States need more product-standards compatibility and more regulatory convergence, in order to allow greater economies of scale for our manufacturing and transportation sectors, and fewer regulatory barriers. Working under the same regulatory roof will make us stronger global competitors vis-à-vis Asia and Europe.

■ Third, Canadian energy exports to the United States rose from \$50 billion in 2002 to more than \$90 billion in 2007. Canada supplied 16 percent of total U.S. natural gas consumption. It also supplied 18 percent of U.S. crude-oil products. Yet many U.S. and Canadian politicians are considering measures to reduce carbon emissions, such as a carbon cap-and-trade system. Apart from the many problems such a scheme faces in its own right, Canada is particularly sensitive to arbitrary caps on carbon set in Washington that would directly affect Canadian oil and manufacturing exports. Any disruption in the oil trade between our countries will have a negative impact on Canada’s trade balance and will make the United States more dependent on foreign oil.

All of these interests point to the need for technical and sector-specific agreements between the United States and Canada, ones that combine both economic and domestic security issues. The new administration would do well to consider a refined bilateral version of the SPP, albeit with more consultation with Congress from the start, to remove any fears of conspiracy or secrecy. 🌿

*North American trade expert Alexander Moens is a professor at Simon Fraser University and a senior fellow in Canadian-American relations at the Fraser Institute in Vancouver.*



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# How to Prevent a Genocide

*In the past, foreign powers have been slow to intervene – if at all – against the mass extermination of human beings. That trend may be reversed by a new strategy of mass-atrocity response operations.*

BY COLS. BRYAN GROVES AND BILL KEYES

**G**enocide is not new. Societies throughout history have committed horrific mass atrocities against others. The question arises, however, as to whether the United States has the will to intervene to prevent or halt them in the future.

When should the United States intervene to prevent genocide or mass atrocities in other countries? Some argue that the United States is obligated by international treaties to do so under provisions of the United Nations' Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, adopted in 1948 and ratified by the United States on Nov. 25, 1988. Article I states that the contracting parties "confirm that genocide, whether committed in time of peace or in time of war, is a crime under international law, which they undertake to prevent and to punish."

Others argue that the United States cannot be the world's police department and that the sovereignty of others must be respected. Such thinking places pragmatic national interests ahead of idealism.



**ABOVE:** French soldiers evacuate 160 orphans at a refugee camp in Goma, Zaire, in 1994. Charles Caratini/Sygma/Corbis

**TOP:** Skulls of genocide victims sit on a shelf at a Rwandan church in Ntarama. Corbis



But the saw cuts both ways. Almost two years before the massacre of about 7,000 Muslim men and boys at Srebrenica – and more than eight years before 9/11 – Sen. Robert Dole, R-Kan., warned that Islamic fundamentalists were using Western indifference to Muslim suffering as a recruiting device.

We cannot seriously suggest that an early U.S. intervention in Bosnia, thereby preventing genocidal acts, might have prevented 9/11. However, Samantha Power notes in her book, “A Problem from Hell: America and the Age of Genocide,” that “citizens victimized by genocide or abandoned by the international community do not make good neighbors, as their thirst for vengeance ... their acceptance of violence as a means of generating change can turn them into future threats .... Some Muslim citizens became radicalized .... It appears that one of the organizations that infiltrated Bosnia in its hour of need and used it as a training base was Saudi terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden’s al-Qaeda.”

If we accept that we have a responsibility under the law, and that it may be in our national interest to prevent and punish genocide, the next question is how. In August 1978, Sen. George McGovern, D-S.D., argued for the deployment of an international military force to Cambodia to stop genocide there. But he could not overcome trepidations of the military and civilian leadership, including other members of Congress for whom Cambodia seemed to echo Vietnam in time, space and complexity.

The Proxmire Act of 1987 established stiff penalties to punish U.S. perpetrators of genocide, but it did not specifically authorize intervention in the affairs of foreign powers to prevent it. At the same time, the Proxmire Act did not rule out U.S. intervention.

The 2006 National Security Strategy (NSS) stated explicitly that we must be prepared to intervene: “... genocide must not be tolerated. It is a moral imperative that states take action to prevent and punish genocide. ... We must refine United States Government efforts – economic, diplomatic, and law enforcement – so that they target those individuals responsible for genocide. ... Where perpetrators of mass killing defy all attempts at peaceful intervention, armed intervention may be required.”

The NSS position is clear: when it comes to preventing genocides, military intervention in a foreign country is not the first option, but it is an option. Out of that strategic guidance, the

U.S. Army Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute developed, with the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard University, a planning framework for mass-atrocity response operations, or MARO. Based on the U.S. Joint Operations Planning and Execution System, MARO has been shared with officials at DoD, the State Department and the United Nations.

Why use the term “mass atrocities” rather than “genocide”? Simply put, genocide (as defined by the United Nations) encompasses five specific crimes. By concentrating on “killing members of the group,” MARO focuses on the most heinous of those crimes.

MARO depends on independent reports for indicators that a mass atrocity is imminent – or ongoing – to allow the United States to intervene at an early stage. Such reports have predicted every genocide or mass atrocity in recent history.



*A Bosnian Muslim watches as foreign officials visit a mass grave in Potocari, a few hundred meters from a memorial center for victims of the Srebrenica massacre, on July 11, 2005. The funeral marked the 10th anniversary of Europe’s worst atrocity since World War II.* Damir Sagolj/Reuters/Corbis

Romeo Dallaire, the Canadian force commander of the U.N. Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR), cabled Kofi Annan at U.N. headquarters in New York on Jan. 10, 1993. He warned the secretary-general that Hutu extremists planned to kill Belgian soldiers to intimidate Brussels into pulling its battalion from UNAMIR, and that Hutu leadership had directed its followers to prepare lists of Tutsis who would be exterminated upon command.

Foreign embassies in Rwanda knew of the violence, and on April 12, 1994 (six days into a three-month genocide), 650 foreigners from

22 countries flew out of Rwanda. There were plenty of reports – the world knew and had time to intervene to save hundreds of thousands of lives.

MARO would incorporate independent reports into its identification of potential or ongoing acts of mass atrocity, then develop options to prevent or halt them. These options would then be presented to national leadership for decision-making: diplomatic pressure, information campaigns, economic

sanctions, and the threat or use of military intervention. The recommended option will, in many cases, include a combination of some or all of these elements.

When observers report events that indicate an imminent or ongoing mass atrocity, the White House and State Department can announce their condemnation while our diplomats can begin recruiting other nations to support our position



*A U.S. Marine talks to Haitians during the 1994 military intervention to crush the regime of Col. Raoul Cédras in Port-au-Prince. From 1991 to 1994, the regime's death squads killed between 10,000 and 30,000 people. On Sept. 19, 1994, Marines landed in Haiti as part of a multinational peacekeeping force. President Jean-Bertrand Aristide was restored to power Oct. 15. Peter Turnley/Corbis*

## PEACEKEEPERS HOLD HAITI IN CHECK

In our own hemisphere, Haiti stands as an example of a U.N. peacekeeping operation that benefits U.S. interests. In the 1990s, tens of thousands of Haitians fled across 600 miles of ocean, trying to reach Florida. Hundreds drowned. The U.S. Coast Guard caught about 67,000 Haitians during their attempts to flee. Finally, in 1994, the United States intervened on the island with 22,000 troops and police.

By April 1995, the U.S.-led operation in Haiti had shifted to a multinational effort. The United Nations conducted peacekeeping operations there until 2001, only to return in 2004 after armed conflict broke out in the wake of hotly contested elections.

Today, more than 9,000 U.N. peacekeepers – about 7,000 soldiers and 2,000 police – bolster Haiti's security so that U.N. political and economic development can resolve grievances and prevent a mass exodus.

The U.N. Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) represents a significant multinational effort to keep the peace on the Caribbean island. Major troop-contributing nations include Brazil, Nepal, Uruguay, Jordan, Sri Lanka, Argentina and Chile.

Since 2004, MINUSTAH has provided humanitarian assistance after several hurricanes, provided security for elections, and fought numerous criminal gangs that have long dominated the violent Cite Soleil and Martissant slums of Port-au-Prince. In 2007 alone, MINUSTAH and Haitian national police conducted 17 operations against

gangs and arrested more than 850 members. Since its inception, MINUSTAH forces have suffered 32 deaths.

An uneasy peace is maintained in Haiti. The security of numerous international-aid agencies has improved, and the annual exodus of Haitian refugees to the United States is decreasing.

Some observers insist there are not enough U.N. peacekeepers on the island. Organizations such as CARE, Doctors Without Borders and the International Red Cross have all curtailed operations in Haiti for security reasons.

"Better security would have meant faster development results on the ground," said Caroline Anstey, director of the World Bank's Caribbean unit. "Faster development would have contributed to better security."

The cost of U.N. peacekeeping operations is low compared to larger and more demanding U.S.-led operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Between 1993 and 2008, the United States spent \$292 million to support peacekeeping missions of different sizes.

Greater diplomatic support for operations such as the one in Haiti is needed. By supplying peacekeepers with adequate intelligence and logistics, the United States can be extremely effective in dozens of locations around the world, without having to send in troops. The United Nations also needs to give peacekeepers strong mandates that give them liberal but reasonable rules of engagement.

– Col. Bryan Groves



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## THE AMERICAN LEGION'S PAST POSITIONS ON THE GENOCIDE CONVENTION

Initially, The American Legion supported the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, adopted by the United Nations in 1948 and signed first by the United States. In fact, the 31st National Convention, meeting in Philadelphia, voted in favor of Senate ratification. But objections on the grounds of U.S. national sovereignty were raised during a Senate subcommittee hearing in 1950.

The Senate didn't take official action on the Convention, and in 1967, the Legion's National Executive Committee passed Resolution 18, which insisted that the Senate continue to refuse ratification until certain reservations and stipulations were made.

In 1985, the 68th National Convention of The American Legion, convened in New Orleans, passed Resolution 329, urging the Senate to reject the Genocide Convention.

The resolution stated that under the convention, Americans could be tried in their own courts but still have to stand before an international court without the protection of the U.S. Constitution: "This convention has no effect on nations but applies only to individuals; therefore, it violates this test of constitutionality."

In 1986, the Senate ratified the treaty, and two years later, Congress adopted implementation language, known as the Proxmire Act. Reservations include U.S. consent to any case brought to the international court that includes the United States as a party, and refusal to cede authority to an international court. In effect, the United States reserves the right to decide whether, when and how the Convention applies to itself. President Reagan signed the law Nov. 4, 1988.

and join in taking possible action. Information campaigns would help to stymie international support for the offending regime, communicate threats of military force, and promise that guilty parties will be punished. Wherever possible, the campaigns can warn populations at risk so they can take evasive action. Economic sanctions can be used to punish those responsible for permitting, inciting or carrying out mass atrocities. Military force can then be applied to remove those responsible and to provide security for those at risk.

Preventing genocide requires sufficient military support. Dallaire believed 5,500 U.N. troops could have enforced the mandate in Rwanda and deter the Hutu-led genocide. Radio broadcasts directing the genocide could have been blocked; messages supporting the U.N. mandate could have been sent.

In the Balkans, U.S. helicopters could have transported French soldiers volunteered by President Chirac to retake Srebrenica and protect its inhabitants during that mass atrocity. Belated U.S. interventions in Bosnia, and later in Kosovo, were conducted in part to prevent further massacres. Some have cited the U.S.-led NATO intervention in Kosovo as a successful genocide-prevention operation.

A credible deterrence is necessary to prevent mass atrocities. Dallaire was given less than half

the troops he asked for in Rwanda, and received lightly armed paratroopers when he asked for heavy mechanized forces. Through its Global Peacekeeping Operations Initiative (GPOI), the U.S. State Department has sought (since 2004)

to increase the number of well-trained and properly equipped peacekeeping troops who could stand as a credible deterrent. As of last March, GPOI had helped train and properly equip more than 64,000 peacekeepers from 73 countries, and facilitated the deployment of some 47,000 in support of 19 peacekeeping operations.

The soldiers, trained to respect human rights as well as to fight, can deter future mass atrocities.

The United States is not alone as we undertake to prevent and punish future genocides. Planning ahead for a comprehensive diplomatic, informational, economic and – if necessary – military response can save hundreds of thousands of lives worldwide. The MARO planning framework can help us do just that. 🌿

*Col. Bryan Groves is a civil affairs officer currently assigned to the Army's Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute at Carlisle Barracks, Pa. Col. Bill Keyes is a logistics officer who leads the Army's Defense Energy Support Command in Houston.*

More information is available online:

**MARO**

[www.hks.harvard.edu/cchrp/maro](http://www.hks.harvard.edu/cchrp/maro)

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PUBLISHERS CLEARING HOUSE



# THE HOMECOMING OF EDWIN PEARCE



## *Airman shot down in war was never forgotten by Pennsylvania schoolchildren.*

Air Force Master Sgt. Edwin Jack Pearce of Milford, Pa., was shot down March 29, 1972, over Laos. He was soon listed as missing in action.

The years turned to decades, but Pearce's parents never lost hope. Edwin A. Pearce, Jack's father, retired early from the Pennsylvania State Police and became the northeast coordinator for the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia. Jack's mother, Rosemary, helped her husband with correspondence.

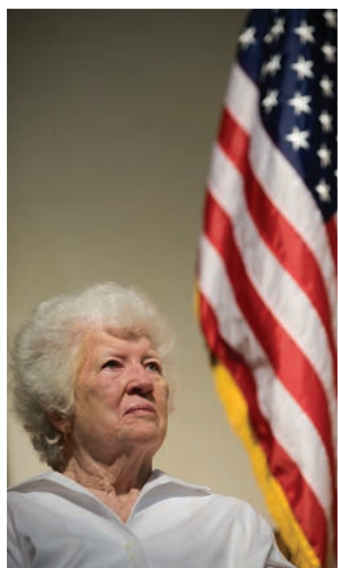
In 1988, Matamoras Elementary School vowed never to forget the missing airman.

The school worked with the National League of Families to adopt Pearce. A special ceremony launched what would become an annual remembrance of Pearce's disappearance. A scrapbook has been vigilantly maintained in his honor. A memorial wall inside the school corridor pays tribute to his life and the war.

New waves of students – who would be about the age of Pearce's grandchildren had he survived – have been reminded daily of a man whose fate was unknown for three and a half decades.

In early 2008, Pearce's remains were positively identified. He was returned to his hometown, where he was buried with full military honors. By then, Pearce's father, a World War II POW in Stalag 17, had passed away, never knowing what had happened to his son.

On May 20, in a pre-Memorial Day ceremony that included the family of Master Sgt. Pearce, local veterans, along with children, teachers and alums from the school that would not forget, assembled once more to honor a hero.







PHOTOS BY MATTHEW RAINEY



# Frederick Galbraith Jr.

*He led the effort to improve care for disabled veterans.*

One week before he died in a car accident, Frederick W. Galbraith Jr. wrote, "The welfare of our country and our comrades – the disabled first – this has been the primary concern of The American Legion.

"Where the welfare of our country has been concerned, where the hopes and happiness of our disabled comrades have been at stake, the Legion has stopped at nothing."

"Fritz" Galbraith was an early leading advocate for U.S. veterans wounded on the battlefields in France. He urged Congress to take care of them, and his unceasing efforts contributed to the eventual creation of the Veterans Administration in 1930.

Galbraith also lobbied strenuously on behalf of all veterans for more financial compensation in return for their wartime service. "But there remain another class of disabled," he wrote, "the financially disabled, who have waited patiently until their physically incapacitated buddies should be cared for. Our next great legislative effort will be for them."

After serving as the Department of Ohio's first commander, the 46-year-old combat veteran was elected national commander in September 1920, at the Legion's national convention in Cleveland. In that role, Galbraith spoke at hundreds of meetings and conventions across the United States, educating the public on the need to guarantee the welfare of wounded and disabled veterans.

His efforts paid off. On March 4, 1921 – the first day of President Warren G. Harding's administration – Congress appropriated funds to build more hospitals for veterans covered by the War Risk Insurance Act.

Later that summer, Congress consolidated all veterans benefits into the Veterans Bureau. On April 29, 1922, this agency took control of 57 veterans hospitals previously managed by the Public Health

Service. Four years later, the government began to see a new trend: more World War I veterans were being treated for their wounds and disabilities, then returning to civilian life, and fewer remained in permanent caretaker facilities, such as the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.

On June 9, 1921, Galbraith was in Indianapolis to attend a National Finance Committee meeting when he was killed instantly in an automobile accident.

Eight days later, Past National Commander Franklin D'Olier wrote in *The American Legion Weekly*, "Galbraith is dead. But the loss, deep and wounding as it is, is a personal loss. We who knew him mourn him because his passing takes away friend, comrade and counselor, and there is a vacancy in our lives which never will be refilled."

– Philip M. Callaghan



## The dossier

Born to parents Frederick and Abbie at Waterford Arsenal, Mass., on May 6, 1874.

Graduated from the Massachusetts Nautical Training Academy at Cape Cod at 19.

As a captain, he oversaw the rescue of a crew from a burning ship in heavy seas off China.

Moved to Cincinnati in 1904 and embarked on a successful business career.

Joined the Army in June 1918, at 40, and commanded the 147th Infantry Regiment.

In combat at Meuse-Argonne, St. Mihiel and Flanders during World War I. Wounded Sept. 29, 1918.

Awarded Distinguished Service Cross, Legion of Honor and Croix de Guerre.

Killed in car accident in Indianapolis on June 9, 1921.

After his death, a memorial was built in his honor at the Eden Park Overlook in Cincinnati in 1923.





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[CHILDREN &amp; YOUTH]

# 'I'm a different person now'

*For 30 years, The American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy has instilled integrity and respect in Arizona youth.*

BY STEVE BROOKS

**A**t The American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy in Prescott, Ariz., "integrity" is a buzzword, heard almost as often as "yes sir" or "thank you sir."

For the camp's 2009 graduates, integrity is the core of what they've achieved, the chief characteristic of a personal transformation.

"I have goals (now). I have honor. I have integrity," said 17-year-old Teodora Luna of Phoenix, the academy's top female physical-fitness performer. "I'm a different person now."

Established 25 years ago, the Legion's Law Enforcement Career Academy combines physical training with team-building exercises aimed to improve adolescents' self-esteem and self-discipline. Federal, state and local

officers act as both camp counselors and drill sergeants for participating teens, many of whose family backgrounds put them at risk for behavioral and other problems.

"It started out, officially, as a camp for kids interested in law enforcement. It's grown into a camp for kids wanting direction," said Frank Whitten, camp director and a member of American Legion Post 61 in Avondale. "Right away the cops are in their face. They get on them right away. During the week, they start transforming. By (the last day), you'd never know they were the same kids that had come in a week earlier."

Seeing the life changes of struggling teenagers is one of the reasons why Arizona Department of Public Safety Sgt. Dan Palmer has spent nearly 20 years as a camp counselor. For the past five years, he's served as camp commandant.

"When they come in, the majority of these kids



are withdrawn," said Palmer, a member of Post 61 who recently retired after 22 years in the Arizona Air National Guard. "They're scared. They lack confidence. They have about zero discipline. The majority of them, you can see it on their face.

"They go from, 'It's all about me,' to, in two days, 'It's the team.' That's all you hear about: us, we, 'Guys, we've got to get together.' It starts happening in a couple of days."

That was the experience of Bradley Staley, 17, of Peoria, Ariz. After suffering lacerations to his knee mid-week, Staley had the option to go home. But there was no way he would leave camp, he said.



One of the camp's highlights is training in defensive tactics, taught by Arizona law-enforcement officers. Other subjects include cyber crime, SWAT teams and driver safety.

For information on how to conduct your own law enforcement camp, contact Sgt. Dan Palmer.

[dpalmer@azdps.gov](mailto:dpalmer@azdps.gov)

(602) 223-2553





**PHOTOS BY AMANDA VOISARD**



**ABOVE:** Team building is emphasized at the camp. “I” is replaced by “we” and “us,” commandant Sgt. Dan Palmer says.

**LEFT:** Discipline and order are not options for the camp attendees, who stand at attention when addressed by counselors.

**BELOW:** Caps go airborne after campers celebrate graduation from The American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy. Each student receives a diploma during the ceremony.

“You learn to be a family,” Staley said. “We all stay together until the end, no matter what.”

Physical fitness is a big part of academy training – participants are taken on a 6-mile run, broken up by physical training “breaks,” on their first day – but exercise isn’t all it’s about. Reading comprehension and writing ability are tested, and participants learn citizenship and ethics. They’re also exposed to a long list of law enforcement-related subjects: defensive tactics, canine handling, cyber crimes, SWAT teams and driver safety.

Students are assigned nicknames the first day, after turning over cell phones, credit cards, keys, wallets and money at check-in. “We want to protect their property, and it lets these kids know mentally that they’re not going anywhere,” Palmer said. “If they want to leave, they come to me.”

Camp is strict, but the discipline worked for Peter Chavez, 13, of Phoenix, who graduated in 2009 with 46 other youth. “I believe it’s changed my attitude and the way I act around adults,” he said. “I think it’s made me a little more mature.”

The academy concludes with a graduation ceremony that includes participants’ friends and family. At the end of the week, a visible difference is seen in those who attend the camp.

“Most of my staff has been with me since ’05, and I tell them each year that if we can save one kid, we’re successful,” Palmer said. “It’s the kids. They’re our future. That’s what this is about.”



Lake Havasu City police officer Dan Kuch leads students on a run. Physical fitness is just one part of the camp, which also stresses ethics and increased self-esteem.

## [VERBATIM]

**“It’s a very aggressive enemy right now. We’ve got to stop their momentum, stop their initiative. It’s hard work.”**

**Gen. Stanley McChrystal**, the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, telling *The Wall Street Journal* that the Taliban have gained the upper hand

**“The president does not describe this as a ‘war on terrorism.’”**

**John Brennan**, head of the White House homeland security office, saying the Obama administration’s terminology is that the United States “is at war with al-Qaeda”

**“We intend to charge for all our news Web sites. If we’re successful, we’ll be followed by all media.”**

**Rupert Murdoch**, News Corp. chairman and managing director

**“If they can’t administer a program like this, I’d be a little concerned about my health insurance.”**

**Rob Bojaryn**, a car salesman, on the government’s handling of the “Cash for Clunkers” program

**“This is the amount of calories you might expect to have in an evening meal, not in a drink.”**

**Rachel Thompson** of the World Cancer Research Fund, on reports that some iced beverages sold in coffee shops have extremely high calorie counts

**“Right now, Americans are more concerned about the economy than the environment.”**

**Frank Newport**, Gallup Poll editor, on recent surveys that show 41 percent of Americans believe the media has exaggerated the threat of global warming, up from 35 percent a year ago

## [INTERVIEW]



Photo by Larry Mayer

## VIRTUAL PIONEER

Bill Anderson, a Vietnam War Air Force veteran, was working with the Advanced Research Project Agency (ARPA) when online communication was born. Known as ARPAnet, this forerunner to the Internet sent its first message Oct. 29, 1969, from UCLA to the Stanford Research Institute in California.

Anderson’s job was to review ARPAnet and other communications technology for military applications. From his post at the State Department, he monitored the growth of the Internet – the first e-mail in 1971, the first file transfer in 1973, and further expansion of the system by the Defense Communication Agency after 1975.

Anderson is retired and now serves as webmaster for The American Legion Department of Montana. He recently spoke with *The American Legion Magazine* about the early days of information technology, and what he thinks the future might hold.

**Q: How did you end up in information technology?**

**A:** My degree was in pre-med. But I was more interested in technology. I got my amateur radio license in the sixth grade. It was a bet with my dad. He said I was too young to get a license, and I said I could. So I did. He had to buy me my first transmitter, a DX-50. That was in 1957. If you want to talk about messaging, that was the beginning of instant messaging. I used to play chess with somebody every morning in Utah. We sent our moves by Morse code, back and forth through ham radio. So I had my ham radio operator’s license and a television license in college. I maintained an FM station and a television station, and when the Air Force saw my résumé, they said, “Ah, communications!”

**Q: A lot of American Legion posts and departments are developing a stronger presence on the Web. What have you done in Montana to make it so viable?**

**A:** You mean how we hit 100,000 visitors this month? First of all, I’m one who thinks it’s the community that drives the success. It’s like writing a book. You don’t write it for yourself. You write it for your audience.

You want your audience to be able to look up post, officer and program information. Then I gather news and event information. I tie it all up with a photo gallery. That’s turned out to be one of the hottest things.

People love to tell others what they do, right? You have to give them a medium to tell their story and let them contribute some photos, and you have to make that medium comfortable for all age groups.



**Q:** Regarding the Internet, what do you think are the key differences between Vietnam-era and OIF/OEF veterans?

**A:** The Iraq and Afghanistan veterans have a much stronger technical background. They grew up with it and are used to the Internet. Even with Vietnam veterans, it's a challenge for them to use the Internet.

The easiest way to introduce an older veteran to the Internet is the photo album. They can understand pictures. Take Post 30, for example. There was a 92-year-old veteran who marched in a parade, and someone took some pictures and posted them on the Internet. Well, he went home and bought a computer, and hooked it up to the Internet just so he can show the pictures to his grandkids.

You also have to keep your content updated. I have members checking our site twice a day because they know I change the news twice a day.

**Q:** Some say social networking will eventually replace e-mail. How do you see the Web evolving in years to come?

**A:** The BlackBerry, iPhone and all that stuff are making Web sites and online communication readily accessible from mobile devices. That is critical, because most people are online because of communication. It's going to take a while, and it will be driven by the Iraq and Afghanistan veterans. They will be the first ones to explore any new technology coming from the mobile sector. Getting older veterans to use these devices is tough.

**Q:** Do you think baby-boomer veterans will eventually catch on to social networking using these mobile devices?

**A:** I think that's the generation we have to move toward when we think of technology. Trust me, by the time most of them are online, it's going to be a totally different world, anyway. Twitter and Facebook will be ancient history at some point. Watch and see what your audience wants and is ready for, and you just move into it. But you don't destroy the old. You build on it, because you're going to have people who will never get used to Facebook or Twitter, and you have to be considerate of their needs.

— Jin Kong

## RINGING IN THE EARS?

If you suffer from Tinnitus and experience symptoms such as ringing in the ears or buzzing, hissing, whistling, or other sounds, you should know that help is available. Many people are putting up with irritating Tinnitus problems because they are not aware of this proven treatment.

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## RESTLESS LEGS?

If uncomfortable sensations in your legs accompanied by an irresistible urge to move are keeping you from falling asleep, you may have Restless Legs Syndrome (RLS).

RLS is a common sleep disorder that affects 30 million Americans. What many people may not know is that there is a proven treatment that has been helping thousands get relief and get to sleep. MagniLife® Restless Legs Relief tablets contain ingredients that relieve RLS symptoms such as creepy, crawly, tingling, and pulling sensations that urge you to move your legs when resting.

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## SCIATICA PAIN?

If you've ever suffered from Sciatica symptoms, such as intense pain in the buttocks and lower back, or pain and numbness in your legs and feet, you are not alone. Over 170 million people suffer from the burning, tingling, numbing, and shooting pain because they are not aware there is a proven treatment available.

MagniLife® Sciatica Relief is a special blend of all-natural ingredients that was developed to help ease the severe discomfort of symptoms of Sciatica. Easy-to-take tablets dissolve under the tongue, and can safely be taken with other medications without side effects. "The Sciatica Relief tablets

are a miracle solution to the pain of Sciatica." — Lillie, California.

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## FIBROMYALGIA SUFFERER?

If you suffer from aches and pains all over, have difficulty sleeping, and have the feeling of little or no energy, you may be one of the six million Americans who suffer from Fibromyalgia — a set of chronic pain symptoms that occur together but have no known cause. These pains can be in the neck, shoulders, back, arms and legs and can be accompanied by muscle tenderness and soreness. There is no need to suffer another day thanks to a new proven treatment that relieves day in and day out pain.

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tablets, and they are great. They work." — Michelle G., Blue Ridge, TX.

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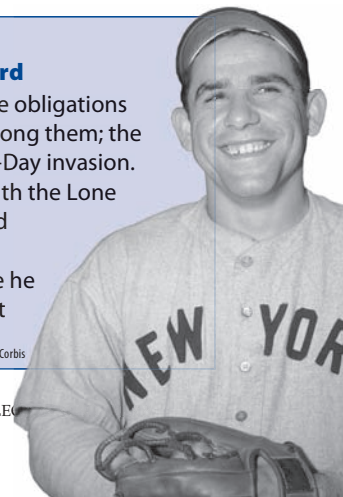
### [HONOR]

#### Navy Memorial recognizes Berra with Lone Sailor Award

During World War II, many ballplayers fulfilled their service obligations by taking cushy assignments overseas. Yogi Berra wasn't among them; the legendary Hall-of-Famer served as a gunner's mate at the D-Day invasion. Six decades later, the U.S. Navy Memorial is honoring him with the Lone Sailor Award, given annually to former sailors who have used service-learned skills to further their careers and lives.

Berra's illustrious baseball career began in St. Louis, where he played American Legion Baseball for Fred W. Stockholm Post 245. He became an all-time great after an 18-year career.

Corbis





[POW/MIA]

## Long-missing pilot laid to rest

On Aug. 13, the remains of Capt. Michael "Scott" Speicher arrived at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla., 18 years after the Navy pilot was shot down flying a combat mission during Operation Desert Storm. He was later laid to rest in a private ceremony at the Jacksonville Memorial Gardens Cemetery as his squadron, the Sunliners of VFA-81, flew overhead in a missing-man formation.

Acting on information provided by an Iraqi citizen in early July, U.S. Marines stationed in Al-Anbar province went to a location in the desert believed to be the crash site of Speicher's jet. Two Iraqi citizens recalled an American jet hitting the desert during the Gulf War and Bedouins burying the pilot's remains. After bones and skeletal fragments were discovered, the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology positively matched a jawbone with Speicher's dental records.

[WAR ON TERRORISM]

## Shifting fronts

### Number of U.S. air strikes in Iraq

June 2007	207
June 2008	25
June 2009	0

### IED attacks in Iraq

June 2007	2,588
June 2008	602
June 2009	260

### IED attacks in Afghanistan

June 2007	234
June 2008	308
June 2009	736

### Number of U.S. air strikes in Afghanistan

2007	1,090
2008	1,170
2009	566 (through June)

Sources: Wired, U.S. Air Force

[CITIZENSHIP]

## 'Source of our freedom'

In what *Marine Corps News* calls "the largest naturalization ceremony held by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to date in Iraq," 239 troops from 59 countries took the oath of citizenship in July. Vice President Joe Biden, who attended the ceremony, called the new citizen-soldiers "the source of our freedom."

Since a new naturalization process for immigrant servicemembers was put in place by President George W. Bush in 2001, some 50,000 troops have been naturalized.



[WAR ON TERRORISM]

## Friend or foe?

Taliban forces are avoiding some attacks by the U.S.-led NATO coalition, thanks to special infrared patches obtained during raids on NATO supply trucks and even through online purchases, *The Washington Times* reports. The patches are intended to help U.S. forces discern friendly forces from hostile.

[NATIONAL SECURITY]

## The B-52's new mission

The venerable, ageless B-52 Stratofortress has another mission to add to its long résumé: homeland security. *National Defense* reports that B-52s are being deployed off America's coasts to locate and photograph suspicious ships approaching U.S. waters.

Read more online. [www.nationaldefensemagazine.org](http://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org)





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[SHOOTING SPORTS]

## Minnesota teen captures Precision crown



Sean Crosier

Eighteen-year-old Emily Quiner of Brooklyn Park, Minn., won the Precision championship during the 19th annual American Legion Junior Air Rifle National Championship in Colorado Springs, Colo., Aug. 6-8. Shooting for Minnesota Center Shots and sponsored by Edward B. Cutter Post 102 in Anoka, Minn., Quiner finished with a score of 2,467.5 of a possible 2,509.

Deckard Day, a 15-year-old shooter from Albuquerque, N.M., captured the Sporter crown. Shooting for the LaCueva High School Marine Corps JROTC marksmanship unit sponsored by Post 49 in Albuquerque, Day fired an impressive 2,308.9 out of 2,509.

Shooters set three tournament records during the competition. Quiner set a new Precision standing record of 788.54 out of a possible 800, breaking the previous record of 785 set by 2006 champion Thomas Santelli. Day set a new Sporter kneeling score of 764,

breaking the old record of 756 shared by 2005 champion Micaela Jochum and 2004 champion Wesley Hess.

Finally, Kaitlin Pennell set a new Precision final shoot-off record of 103.5 of 109, breaking the previous record of 103 set by 2005 champion Jonathan Hall.

Also, Day's 2,308.9 placed him fourth in the all-time top five Sporter scores.

Tournament staff selected teammates Courtney Bates and Shayna Thompson as co-recipients of the annual Francis M. Redington Sportsmanship Award. The American Legion established the award in May 2005 in the memory of Redington, a long-time tournament staff member who died in 2003. Bates and Thompson were selected as the athletes competing in the national championship who best exemplified good sportsmanship and fair play.

### TOP FINISHERS

#### PRECISION

- 1. Emily Quiner**, Brooklyn Park, Minn., 2,467.5 of 2,509 points
- 2. Abigail Stanec**, Wadsworth, Ohio, 2,460.8
- 3. Emily Holsoapple**, Wilcox, Pa., 2,449.2
- 4. Kyle Rebillion**, Tacoma, Wash., 2,442.7
- 5. Kaitlin Pennell**, Antelope, Calif., 2,442.5

#### SPORTER

- 1. Deckard Day**, Albuquerque, N.M., 2,308.9
- 2. Thomas Wheeless**, Hampton, Va., 2,290.7
- 3. Courtney Bates**, Geneva, Fla., 2,273
- 4. Logan Stribling**, Albuquerque, N.M., 2,267.5
- 5. Alyssa Wolken**, Beatrice, Neb., 2,264.1

[AMERICAN LEGION RACING]

## Promising night turns sour for Freedom Car

Racing is a cruel sport. If you don't believe it, ask Jerick Johnson, driver of The American Legion/David Law Firm 76 Freedom car.

On Aug. 15, Johnson hit his marks at the 1.3-mile Nashville Superspeedway to qualify second-fastest for what should have been a front-row start in the American Speed Association Late Model Challenge Series race on the tri-oval. The team's celebration was short-lived.

A customary inversion drawing relegated the Freedom Car to eighth in the starting grid. Eight laps into the 110-lap race, an engine fire forced Team Johnson off the track and into the garage, smoke trailing behind the car.

"It's very disappointing," said Johnson, as he looked into the smoldering engine compartment. "We had a great-handling car – a fast car – today, and it all went up in smoke."



Photo by James V. Carroll

Keep up with Legion Racing: [www.teamjohnsonmotorsports.com](http://www.teamjohnsonmotorsports.com)



[VETERANS AFFAIRS]

## Senate passes survivor benefits amendment

By voice vote and without debate, the Senate passed an amendment July 21 that repeals the offset of pay for surviving spouses who are eligible for both military and survivor benefits. The American Legion has urged Congress to end the unfair practice of deducting VA survivor benefits from military Survivor Benefit Plan annuities.

The amendment to the fiscal 2010 National Defense Authorization Act, S. 1390, was chiefly sponsored by Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla. About 57,000 survivors, mostly widows, will be affected by the new provision. Most of them will get a monthly benefit increase of about \$1,100.

At its 90th National Convention in Phoenix last year, the Legion passed a resolution that called for the elimination of the Survivor Benefits Plan and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation offset.

[INDUSTRY]

## A 'miner' problem

Only two states – Wyoming and Nevada – are in the top 10 in the Fraser Institute's survey of mining companies, which ranks 71 jurisdictions worldwide according to their attractiveness to mining-related investment. Ranked first is the Canadian province of Quebec.

Joining Wyoming and Nevada in the top 20 are Utah (11th) and Alaska (17th). However, the report concludes that "the overall trend is down for most U.S. jurisdictions." Only four states improved from the previous survey, one remained unchanged and nine fell on the survey.

Overall, the survey reveals that the mining sector is bracing for decreased investment, curtailed exploration and an increase in firm failures during the global recession.

"The negative impact from the lack of exploration on commodity supplies will begin to hit as the recovery matures," the report warns. "These problems could weaken the recovery and spark inflation fears."

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[HISTORY]

# The mystery of Flight 777

BY KAREN SUTHERLAND

On June 1, 1943, British Overseas Airway Corp. Flight 777 left Lisbon, Portugal, for London, with seventeen people on board – a crew of four and 13 passengers. Three hours later, a frantic message was sent: “I am followed by unidentified aircraft ... I am being attacked by enemy aircraft.” Silence.

Eight German Junkers Ju 88s attacked Flight 777, causing it to crash into the Bay of Biscay. No trace of the slow-moving aircraft or any of the people on board was found. To this day, it’s a mystery why the Germans attacked an unarmed passenger plane and shot it out of the sky.

One of the passengers on Flight 777 was well-known British actor Leslie Howard. An entertainer described as having a silver voice, he was famous for his work on stage, as a radio broadcaster and producer, and in films such as “The Scarlet Pimpernel” and “Of Human Bondage.” One of Howard’s more recent roles had been Ashley Wilkes in the blockbuster “Gone with the Wind.”

One of the theories given for the downing of the plane was that Howard had enraged Nazi propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels with his anti-German films and radio broadcasts. Did Goebbels order Howard’s death?

Howard’s son, Ronald, wrote in his book “In Search of My Father” that “under the guise of propaganda he was serving the interests of the Secret Service ... this charming, apparently vague actor might be more than he appeared – a kind of carrier pigeon, storing information in his actor’s memory for the use of British intelligence.” Later, Howard said his father was “Goebbels’ principal propaganda opponent in Britain.”

More recently, others have claimed that British Prime Minister

Winston Churchill sent Howard, because of certain connections he had, to persuade Spain’s Gen. Francisco Franco to stay neutral in the war.

Another possible reason for Flight 777’s destruction was the other passengers. Many had ties to the British government and indirectly to British intelligence. The route between Lisbon and London was jokingly called a hotbed of spies.

One of the passengers was Tyrell Shervington, manager for Shell-Mex Oil Co. in Lisbon. Shervington was thought by the Germans to be chief of the Secret Service in Lisbon. Another was Wilfrid Israel, who had rescued German Jews and was instrumental in helping establish a Jewish state in Palestine.

A third possible reason for Flight 777’s downing is more sinister: the Germans believed Winston Churchill was on board the plane. Leslie Howard often traveled with his business manager, Alfred Chenhalls, who bore a certain resemblance to Churchill, especially when smoking a cigar.

Ronald Howard argues that Churchill “was a lot smaller and stockier than Chenhalls. He was also 20 years older and didn’t resemble him facially – unless one was short-sighted.”

However, in her book “A Quite Remarkable Father,” Leslie Ruth Howard writes, “It was my father’s misfortune to fly on the same day that Churchill was known to be returning from Algiers. There, I think, is the answer to his death.”

*Karen Sutherland is a freelance writer living in Downers Grove, Ill.*

*Leslie Howard as “The Scarlet Pimpernel.”* Corbis





# Bob Vila endorses and recommends the famous EdenPURE® portable heater

## Millions of Americans now saving up to 50% on their heating bills and raving about the "heavenly heat"

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The new EdenPURE® GEN3 heater heats better, faster, saves more on heating bills and runs almost silent.

The EdenPURE® can pay for itself in a matter of weeks and then start putting a great deal of extra money in your pocket after that.

A major cause of residential fires in the United States is portable heaters. But the EdenPURE® cannot cause a fire. That is because the advanced infrared heating element never gets to a temperature that can ignite anything.

The outside of the EdenPURE® only gets warm to the touch so that it will not burn children or pets.

The EdenPURE® will also keep you healthy. That is because, unlike other heating sources, it will not reduce humidity or oxygen in the room.

The advanced space-age EdenPURE® Infrared Portable Heater also heats the room evenly, wall-to-wall and floor-to-ceiling. And, as you know, most other portable heaters only heat an area a few feet around the heater.

Unlike other heating sources, the EdenPURE® cannot put poisonous carbon monoxide, any type of fumes or any type of harmful radiation into a room.

**Q. What is the origin of this amazing heating element in the EdenPURE®?**

A. This advanced heating element was discovered accidentally by a man named John Jones.

**Q. What advantages does this advanced infrared heating process have over other heating source products?**



**Cannot start a fire; a child or animal can touch or sit on it without harm**

Pictured above is Bob Vila demonstrating the famous EdenPURE® GEN3 Model 1000 heater with a family. It saves big money on your heating bill while keeping you toasty warm with "heavenly heat".

A. This infrared heating process was designed around the three most important consumer benefits: economy, comfort, and safety.

In the EdenPURE® process, electricity is used to generate a type of infrared heat which, in turn, creates a very safe heat.

**Q. How can a person cut their heating bill by up to 50% with the EdenPURE®?**

A. The EdenPURE® will heat a room in minutes. Therefore, you can turn the heat down in your house to as low as 50 degrees, but the room you are occupying, which has the EdenPURE®, will be warm and comfortable. The EdenPURE® is portable. When you move to another room, it will quickly heat that room also. This can drastically cut heating bills, in some instances, by up to 50%.

**End of interview.**

The EdenPURE® will pay for itself in weeks. It will keep a great deal of extra money in a users pocket. Because of today's spiraling gas, oil, propane, and other energy costs, the EdenPURE® will provide even greater savings as the time goes by.

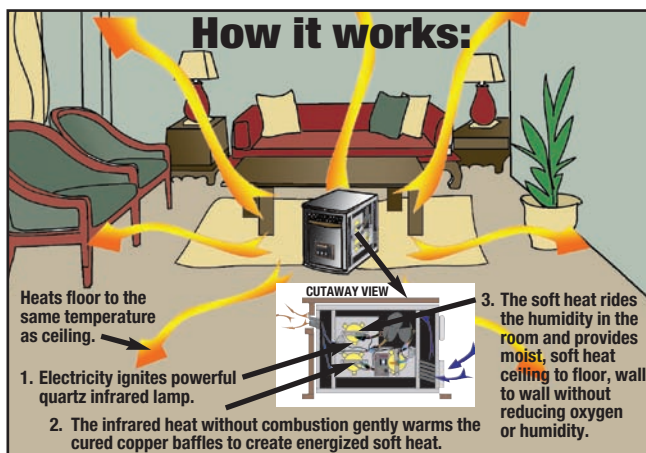
The EdenPURE® heater is now greatly improved. With no increase in price, the new EdenPURE® has been updated with the latest technology, safety, and comfort features to provide you with even greater comfort, more savings, and years of reliability. The EdenPURE® comes with a comprehensive three year warranty along with a 60-day no questions asked satisfaction guarantee – we pay the return shipping.

This product has been listed by Underwriters Laboratories.

#### Testimonials from a few of the millions of satisfied EdenPURE® customers

The EdenPURE® has cut my gas bill to a third of what it was last year. *Leslie Wilson, Vancouver, WA*

The EdenPURE® really puts out the heat like a little solar furnace. It's below freezing outside and cozy warm in the rather over large living room area where I'm using it. I have already noticed a 40 to 60% drop in the cost of my heating bills. *George B., Triangle, N.Y.*



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The price of the EdenPURE® GEN3 Model 500 is \$372 plus \$17 shipping for a total of \$389 delivered. The GEN3 Model 1000 is \$472 plus \$27 shipping and handling for a total of \$499 delivered. People reading this publication get a \$75 discount plus free shipping and handling and pay only \$297 delivered for the GEN3 Model 500 and \$397 delivered for the GEN3 Model 1000 if you order within 10 days. The EdenPURE® GEN3 comes in the decorator color of black with burled wood accent which goes with any decor. There is a strict limit of 3 units at the discount price - no exceptions please.

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[INTERVIEW]



## NFL player meets 'real heroes'

Jared Allen is rich and famous. But he'll be the first to tell you he's not a hero.

An All-Pro defensive end for the Minnesota Vikings, Allen spent part of the NFL offseason meeting U.S. troops serving in Iraq and Kuwait. The football star comes from a military family; his grandfather retired as a captain from the U.S. Marine Corps, and his younger brother graduated from Marine Corps boot camp in May.

Allen spoke with *The American Legion Magazine* about his family's military service and his visit to the war theater.

**Q: Your grandfather served in the Marine Corps for 26 years. What did he tell you about his service?**

**A:** It was his life. When he was 17, he lied about his age so he could join the Marines. He served in Korea, and he did two tours in Vietnam. He was my hero. He loved to serve his country. He never really told me why he loved being in the military. I just know he loved it. He loved the Corps. He had a passion for it, and he instilled that passion in all of us for whatever we do.

**Q: What did you think about your younger brother joining the Marines?**

**A:** I was a little stunned. He was a hell of a football player, and I thought that's what he'd do. So when I found out he was joining the Marines, I wanted to make sure it was for the right reasons. First, I questioned him about why he was joining. When he told me it was because he wanted to serve his country, I told him I was proud of him. When I watched him (graduate from boot camp), it was probably one of the greatest days of my life.

**Q: Describe your visit with U.S. troops in Iraq and Kuwait.**

**A:** I had heard a little bit what [military service] was like from my grandfather, but to see firsthand what these guys go through, and to be able to talk with them, was pretty humbling. The biggest team sport in the world is the military. You get all different people from all different backgrounds on the same page. It was very humbling, knowing that maybe I was giving them a bit of a distraction. They are so unselfish. They're making the ultimate sacrifice in perhaps the worst surroundings possible. It's amazing to watch.

**Q: You're an All-Pro football player. Thousands of people look at you as a hero. Do you feel the same about the men and women you met overseas?**

**A:** Definitely. What I do does not make me a hero. I play a game for a living. I may have a chance to be a role model, but nothing I do is life or death. My livelihood doesn't mean life or death for someone else. These guys in the military, they're playing with live ammo. It is life or death. These guys are the real heroes.

— Steve Brooks

Corbis

[PATRIOTISM]

## By the numbers

**89** Percent of Americans who say they are "very proud" or "moderately proud" of the United States

**82** Percent of Americans who say they have a "great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence in the U.S. military

**26** Percent of Americans who say the United Nations is doing a good job

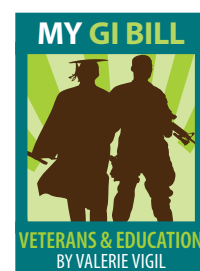
Source: www.american.com

[EDUCATION]

## No living allowance for online degrees

**Q: Can I use the Post-9/11 GI Bill to get my degree online?**

**A:** Yes, a student may use the new GI Bill benefit for online courses. However, if you want to take all your classes online, here is what the new benefit will pay: all or



some tuition (depending on what school you attend) and books (\$1,000 per year). It will not pay for living allowance.

Now, if you're enrolled in classes at an institution and are carrying 12 credit hours, with three credit hours online, VA will pay you for your living allowance.

When taking classes and you want to receive the living allowance, always take more classes at the campus than online.

**Valerie Vigil, a Marine Corps veteran and member of American Legion Post 27 in Arizona, serves as vice president of the National Association of Veterans' Program Administrators. Send GI Bill questions to her by e-mail. askvalerie@legion.org**



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## [ECONOMICS]

## How to nail a sales pitch

When attending a trade show, conference or seminar, your sales presentation needs to be as specific as possible. Prepare a one-page capabilities statement per North American Industry Classification System heading (not per NAICS code). In other words, if you sell telephone and computer networking equipment, put



them on two separate capabilities statements. Only pass along the one appropriate for the situation. Why? There may be different purchasing departments for each item. And when a contracting officer is looking for a telephone solution, he or she is going to be more inclined to seek out a company that looks like

“telephone” is a primary focus of what they do. If “Telephone Sales and Services” are below “Networking Services,” you may never get a call.

Your two-minutes-or-less elevator pitch should only seek to get your prospect to want to hear more. You will never close any sales with your elevator pitch on the floor of a conference. Do not lead with, “We are a service-disabled veteran-owned business.” You want your company to be showcased based on its talents, and it will have much more of an effect if they ask you if you’re a service-disabled veteran-owned company.

When leaving the conversation, always ask for something. Never leave a conversation with “OK, we’ll follow up later” or “I’ll look forward to hearing from you.” Try to turn those situations into definite appointments: “What day next week would be best to follow up?”

As soon as you walk away, make notes on the back of the rep’s business card to recall your memory about your conversation. You’re going to have 10, 20 or more similar conversations throughout the day.

Finally, always follow up within 48 hours after the conference with a personalized e-mail. Get lazy here and you’re likely to blow all of the money and hard work you’ve invested in this outing.

*Louis J. Celli Jr. is a retired Army master sergeant who has started and developed businesses, and has counseled hundreds of veteran entrepreneurs. He is CEO of the Northeast Veterans Business Resource Center. Readers can send questions for “On Point” to [lcelli@nevbrc.org](mailto:lcelli@nevbrc.org).*

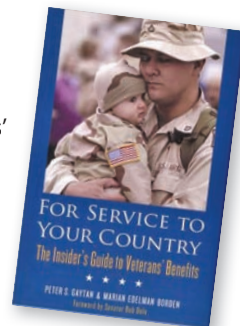
## [BENEFITS]

## ‘For Service To Your Country’ gets second printing

Written by Peter S. Gaytan and Marian Edelman Borden, “For Service to Your Country: The Insider’s Guide to Veterans’ Benefits” is a practical, step-by-step guide to receiving benefits earned through military service. Gaytan is executive director of The American Legion’s Washington office, and Borden is the author of “The Baffled Parent’s Guide to Sibling Rivalry.”

Now in its second printing, the book contains a wealth of material on how to navigate the complicated world of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including how to appeal VA rejection of claims.

[www.forservicetoyourcountry.com](http://www.forservicetoyourcountry.com)



## [ECONOMICS]

## Still chuggin’ along

Although the United States faces very real economic challenges, the nation needs not alter a range of factors that make our economy the engine of globalization and innovation.

A recent RAND study authored by Titus Galama and James Hosek claims that despite talk that America is losing its competitive edge, it remains the leader in science and technology worldwide.

Galama and Hosek report that 75 percent of the world’s top 40 universities are here, the United States accounts for 40 percent of global spending on scientific research and development, and the United States employs 70 percent of Nobel Prize winners.

The full study is available online. [www.rand.org](http://www.rand.org)

## [GOVERNMENT]

## World travelers

According to a *Wall Street Journal* analysis, spending by Congress on taxpayer-funded overseas travel “is up almost tenfold since 1995.” The top 10 destinations for congressional delegations are:

1. Kuwait
2. Germany
3. Austria
4. France
5. Poland
6. Britain
7. People’s Republic of China
8. Israel
9. Switzerland
10. Russia

## [RETIREMENT]

## To wait or not to wait

The *New York Times* has advice for those wondering when to claim their Social Security retirement benefits.

Although full retirement begins at age 66 for people born between 1943 and 1954, a beneficiary can take early

benefits at 62. However, “many people come out ahead if they wait at least until their full retirement age.”

Even so, waiting is not advisable for every retiree. Factors such as savings, health, marital status and spouse’s

income can have a significant bearing on when to claim retirement benefits.

To help with a decision, the Social Security Administration has a Web site to estimate benefits. <http://www.ssa.gov/planners/calculators.htm>





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**It's okay to be skeptical.** But the truth is that Stauer doesn't make money by selling one piece of jewelry to you on a single occasion. Our success comes from serving our long term clients. Be one of the first 2500 to respond to this ad and receive 100% off while getting a closer look at Stauer's exclusive selection of fine jewelry.

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# Are you willing to pay for Web content?

BY REID GOLDSBOROUGH

## [PERSONAL COMPUTING]

Say goodbye to free content on the Internet. The Web will become a pay service. So predicted media legend Barry Diller at a recent advertising conference in New York City, unleashing a considerable stir. Diller, who created the Fox Broadcasting Company and is currently chairman and CEO of IAC, thinks that over the next five years the bulk of Web sites will transition from free to fee.

Some sites currently charge for all or part of their content. Perhaps the most well known is *The Wall Street Journal*, which charges \$103 for an annual online subscription. To beckon visitors, it makes some of its articles free, and to encourage visitors to become subscribers, it provides for free only the first few paragraphs of other articles.

Sites able to charge for their content typically occupy niches in which people have always been willing to pay for quality information, often but not always business-related. *The American Banker* is able to charge a \$995 annual subscription to its Web site, a fee that no doubt is paid for by most of its subscribers' employers.

Some consumer sites that provide concrete services are also able to attract paying visitors, with the more pressing the need, typically, the higher the fees that are able to be generated. Dating site Match.com has one-month, three-month and six-month subscription plans. You can't find out, however, what those plans cost unless you register. The plans cost \$34.99, \$59.97 and \$101.94 respectively, with a "platinum" six-month plan costing \$131.94.

Already some previously free sites are becoming or planning to become pay sites or have pay requirements.

Eastman Kodak just initiated a new photo storage policy at its previously free Kodak Gallery. If you use less than 2 gigabytes of space, you need to buy prints or other products totaling at least \$4.99 every 12 months, and if more than 2 gigabytes, your purchases need to equal at least \$19.99. Otherwise, your photos may be deleted.

The increasingly popular Hulu video-on-demand site just indicated it may begin charging for access. The site launched in August 2007, and currently you can go there to watch many television shows and movies for free any time you wish. The site is now supported by advertising as well as equity investments by NBC, ABC and others.

On the other hand, some previously pay services on the Web have reverted to free. In 2007, *The New York Times* discontinued a two-year program in which it charged \$7.95 per month or \$49.95 per year for access to many of its columns, though it still charges \$6.95 per month or \$39.95 per year for access to "premium" crosswords.

Yet the trend is the opposite, and in some cases the charges reek of audacity. Professional basketball star Kobe Bryant, who earns a reported \$21 million a year, now charges a \$24.95 membership fee for his personal Web site, KB24.com. This gives you access to Bryant's blog and video of him helping his team win the NBA championship.

What's next? Will Google start charging for searches, Yahoo Shopping for comparison shopping and Facebook for social networking? If they do, will they succeed? No crystal ball here, but it's reasonable to assume they won't in any given market with free quality alternatives.

*Reid Goldsborough is a syndicated columnist and author of the book "Straight Talk About the Information Superhighway."*  
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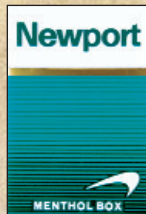
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[AMERICANISM]

## The new Ellis Island

Ellis Island, our historical landmark for immigration, is beginning to tell the stories of U.S. citizens who first entered the country illegally – an expansion officials say increases the site's relevancy to a more diverse audience.

The Peopling of America Center, a \$20 million addition to Ellis Island, will feature exhibits that follow archetypal families, past and present, through the stages of immigration: departure, journey, arrival, the difficulty adapting to a new culture, and immigrants' contributions made to society.

Scheduled to open in 2011, the center will acknowledge the reality of illegal immigration but focus on families' eventual citizenship. This emphasis offers not only an authentic historical account, but also provides The American Legion with a reason to endorse the project.

The Legion opposes all forms of illegal immigration but strongly supports the naturalization process. Legion posts are encouraged to serve as educational centers for immigrants who wish to take U.S. citizenship tests. Per Resolution 12, passed May 8, 2008, posts can provide instructional space for citizenship classes.

The Peopling of America Center is an official expansion of Ellis Island's Immigration Museum. It will also chronicle U.S. immigration before 1892, when the historic portal opened. The museum plans to cater to the changing landscape of immigration and keep the island's history relevant to younger tourists. Formerly, the landmark was devoted mostly to European arrivals from 1892 to 1954. Funding has been provided by private donors and the National Park Service.

[AMERICANISM]

## A natural partnership

*Post assists legal immigrants on path to citizenship.*

Horace Orr Post 29 in Marietta, Ga., is working with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) officials to get Legionnaires involved in the local naturalization process.

Carlos Munoz-Acevedo, USCIS program manager, and Joe Kernan, USCIS's District 8 community relations officer, met with outgoing Post Commander Amador Rodriguez Jr. and other members of Post 29 to discuss a pilot program that includes co-hosting citizenship drives, workshops and study groups.

"We think traditional civic organizations like the Legion are great to lead these efforts," Munoz-Acevedo said. "They have a great number of volunteers. They believe in patriotic ideals. The Legion was one of the first to express strong interest."

Department of Georgia Adjutant Charlie Knox contacted Rodriguez about USCIS's pilot program, and Rodriguez reached out to Munoz-Acevedo. "I said, 'I think we can handle it,'" he said.

For Rodriguez, a Navy retiree, the partnership is personal. "We all know immigration is a hot issue," he said. "Five to six people I know right now are not citizens of this country, but are serving this country in the military. They have their green cards, but they're not citizens of the United States. When they get out of the military, what happens to them? Do they go back (to their native country)? Do they stay? What I'm hoping is that something like what we're doing here is going to help people like them become citizens."

The southeastern United States has seen an increase in immigrants in recent years, Munoz-Acevedo said.

"Atlanta is a new gateway city, and Georgia is a new gateway state," he said. "Many communities don't have the infrastructure to help legal immigrants learn about our country. This is that opportunity."

Rodriguez said he considers it critical that Post 29 make the Atlanta area aware of its desire to assist in naturalization. "We've got to put it out there," he said. "We've got to get it out to local newspapers, TV, radio, because we have a lot of people here. We have Hispanics, Koreans, Vietnamese – a lot of people from all different countries. A lot of them have their own radio stations, their own churches. It's word of mouth."

Munoz-Acevedo urged Legionnaires to act on the ideas they heard at the meeting.

"It doesn't end today," he said. "We will be working with you enough for you to start small – maybe have a program in a couple of months, see how that works out and learn from that."

– Steve Brooks



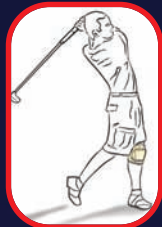


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## [PATRIOTISM]

Following are the remarks of nine-time PGA Player of the Year Tiger Woods at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington on Jan. 18, during the festivities for President Barack Obama's inauguration.

They were originally published online at [www.tigerwoods.com](http://www.tigerwoods.com).

"I grew up in a military family, and my role models in life were my mom and dad, Lt. Col. Earl Woods.

"My dad was a Special Forces operator, and many nights friends would visit our home. They represented every branch of service, and every rank. In my dad, and in those guests, I saw firsthand the dedication and commitment of those who serve. They come from every walk of life, from every part of our country. Time and again, across generations, they have defended our safety in the dark of night and far from home.

"Each day – and particularly on this historic day – we honor the men and women in uniform who serve our country and protect our freedom. They travel to the dangerous corners of the world, and we must remember that for every person who is in uniform, there are families who wait for them to come home safely.

"I am honored that the military is such an important part not just of my personal life, but of my professional life as well. The golf tournament we do each year here in Washington is a testament to those unsung heroes. I am the son of a man who dedicated his life to his country, family and the military, and I am a better person for it.

"In the summer of 1864, Abraham Lincoln, the man on whose memorial we stand, spoke to the 164th Ohio Regiment and said, 'I am greatly obliged to you, and to all who have come forward at the call of their country.'

"Just as they have stood tall for our country, we must always stand by and support the men and women in uniform and their families."

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### How to submit a reunion

The American Legion Magazine publishes reunion notices for veterans. Send notices to **The American Legion Magazine**, Attn: Reunions, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206, fax (317) 630-1280, e-mail [reunions@legion.org](mailto:reunions@legion.org) or submit information via our Web site, [www.legion.org/veterans/reunions](http://www.legion.org/veterans/reunions).

Include the branch of service and complete name of the group, no abbreviations, with your request. The listing also should include the reunion dates and city, along with a contact name, telephone number and e-mail address. Listings are publicized free of charge.

Your notice will appear on our Web site within a week and will remain available online until the final day of your reunion. Upon submission, please allow three months for your reunion to be published in print. **Due to the large number of reunions, The American Legion Magazine**

will publish a group's listing only once a year. Notices should be sent at least six months prior to the reunion to ensure timely publication.

### Other notices

"In Search Of" is a means of getting in touch with people from your unit to plan a reunion. **We do not publish listings that seek people for interviews, research purposes, military photos or help in filing a VA claim.** Listings must include the name of the unit from which you seek people, the time period and the location, as well as a contact name, telephone number and e-mail address. Send notices to **The American Legion Magazine**, Attn: "In Search Of," P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206, fax (317) 630-1280 or e-mail [reunions@legion.org](mailto:reunions@legion.org).

The magazine will not publish names of individuals, only the name of the unit. Listings are published free of charge.

Life Membership notices are published for Legionnaires who have been awarded life mem-

berships by their posts. **This does not include a member's own Paid-Up-For-Life membership.** Notices must be submitted on official forms, which may be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to **The American Legion Magazine**, Attn: Life Memberships, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

"Comrades in Distress" listings must be approved by the Legion's Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation division. If you are seeking to verify an injury received during service, contact your Legion department service officer for information on how to publish a notice.

To respond to a "Comrades in Distress" listing, send a letter to **The American Legion Magazine**, Attn: **Comrades in Distress**, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Include the listing's CID number in your response.

"Taps" notices are published only for Legionnaires who served as department commanders or national officers.

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**5th Plt 1st Force Recon (Vietnam, 1968-1969)**, Jim Gummo, (814) 949-4056, [pgummo@atlanticbb.net](mailto:pgummo@atlanticbb.net)  
**6th Army Postal Unit (Vietnam, 1968-1969)**, Jim Fife, (814) 619-1196,  
**26th Inf Footbal Team H Co (Bamburg, Germany, 1949-1952)**, Frank Donato, (914) 235-4979  
**43rd Div 172nd Inf Rgt (1951-1952)**, Raymond A. LaPalme, [rpalm801@verizon.net](mailto:rpalm801@verizon.net)  
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**71st Constabulary Sqdn Trp B (APO 154, Germany, 1947)**, John Pheasant, (717) 697-1001, log@aol.com

**122nd Ord Bn HQ & A Co Tech Supply (Hanau, Germany, 1960-1962)**, Earl A. Murray, (615) 832-6071

**142nd Nav Const Bn & HQ Co 4th Plt (1944-1945)**, Joseph Strobl, (816) 671-0680, mewmoo@att.net

**435th TCW Football Team (Florida, 1951)**, Carl Gulbrandsen, (305) 238-0408, cgulbran@bellsouth.net

**457th Tact Ftr Sqd**, Tim Day, (405) 310-5339, t.day1@cox.net

**508th Bomb Sqdn, 351st Bomb Grp (Polebrook, England, 1945)**, Ted Anderson, (520) 889-1589, flyerted@yahoo.com

**552nd EBD 733 SCARWAF (Pusan, Korea, 1953-1954)**, Bob Hungerford, (920) 960-2779, hungfrd@dotnet.com

**555th Ambulance Co (Croix Chapeau, France, 1951-1956)**, Micheal Medina, mitch989@comcast.net

**822nd Co Eng Avn Bn (Korea, 1952-1953)**, Josh Beckham Jr., (607) 748-6528, jbeckhamjr@aol.com

**1993rd AACs (Kimpoo AB, Korea, 1953-1954) and 2023rd AACs (Albany, GA, 1954-1956)**, L. Enama, (203) 668-6182, lovortoni@aol.com

**7101st CE Sqdn Fire Dept (Wiesbaden AB, Germany, 1969-1973)**, Andre Greene, (718) 828-5602

**7101st CE Sqdn Fire Dept (Wiesbaden AB, Germany, 1969-1973)**, Ray Linebaugh, (301) 745-4383

**Arneb AKA 56 (Norfolk, VA, 1952-1956)**, Robert McCullough, (302) 398-6442

**BCT Co C-4-1 (Fort Jackson, SC, 1963)**, Brian Vorheis, (585) 973-7173, brianv@infovlvd.net

**Co 185 (Great Lakes, IL, 1954)**, Jimmie Avery, (770) 548-7285

**Co 216 (Bainbridge, MD, 1954)**, Donald Nadeau, (413) 527-2542, donnzi@charter.net

**Co 330 (Great Lakes, IL, 1951) & VR 24, (Port Lyautey, French Morocco, 1952-1954)**, Bob Mandel, (631) 751-8719, rmandel720@aol.com

**Hooper Island ARG 17 (Korea, 1952-1954)**, Gene Guptill, (360) 794-8603

**HQ Co 26th Mar Rgt Op 1, 2 & 4 (Dai La Pass, Jan-Dec 1969) & HQ Bn 1st Mar Div Op (Reno Hill 247, Hill 268 & Rumor Valley, 1969)**, Bob Bottitt, (503) 884-9748

**Parker DE 369, Tafferer DE 418, Farmore DE 509, Harris, Woodson and Davis DE 357**, Jim Guthrie, (410) 266-1413

**Plt 179 (Parris Island, SC, 1955-1956)**, Billy Vance, (276) 988-6477

**Plt 241 MCRD 1st Bn (Parris Island, SC, 1957)**, Joseph Vescovi, (702) 361-6046, vescojj@embarqmail.com

**R&M Co 50th Sig Bn 10th Corps (Camp Sendai, Japan, 1953-1955)**, Richard Downy, (480) 423-9414

**VA 734 (Grosse Ile, MI, 1951-1957)**, Charlie Higgins, (313) 383-2243, chiggins8@wowway.com

## TAPS

**Rev. Archie H. Adams, Dept. of Wisconsin.** Nat'l Distinguished Guests Cmte. General Memb. 1976-1979 and Nat'l American Cncl. General Memb. 1980-1984.

**Warren R. Davies, Dept. of New Jersey.** Nat'l Mbrshp. & Post Activ. Cmte. Memb. 1956-1957, Dept. Cmdr. 1957-1958, Nat'l Legis. Cncl. Memb. 1975-1978, 1981-1982, 1987-1988, 1999-2000, 2001-2003 and 2005-2009, Nat'l Americanism Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1974-1978, Nat'l Legis. Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1979-1980, 1983-1986, 1989-1990 and 1993-1994, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Memb. 1979-1985, Nat'l Americanism Cncl. Chmn. 1985-1986, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Alt. Memb. 1977-

1979, Nat'l Legis. Cmsn. Memb. 1986-1989, Nat'l Finance Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. 1980-1985, Nat'l Resolutions Subcommittee Memb. 1980-1983, Nat'l Merchant Marines Cmte. Memb. 1989-1998 and Nat'l & Homeland Sec. Vice Chmn. 1998-2000.

**Gerald A. Guidry, Dept. of Louisiana.** Nat'l Mbrshp. & Post Activ. Memb. 1974-1975; 1976-1977 & 1980-1982, Nat'l Merchant Mar Cmte. Memb. 1983-1986, Dept. Cmdr. 1986-1987 and Nat'l & Homeland Sec. Vice Chmn. 1987-2009.

**Wilfred C. "Hut" Huddleston, Dept. of Idaho.** Nat'l Law & Order Cmte. Memb. 1986-1988 and Nat'l & Homeland Sec. Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1990-1992.

**Hubert "Hugh" Short, Dept. of Nebraska.** Dept. Cmdr. 1986-1987, Nat'l Distinguished Guests Cmte. Vice Chmn. 1987-1988, Nat'l Veterans Affairs & Rehab. Regional Memb. 1988-1996, Nat'l Veterans Affairs & Rehab. Vice Chmn. 1991-1992 & 1994-1995, Nat'l Veterans Affairs & Rehab. Regional Chmn. 1992-1993 and 1995-1996, and Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Alt. Memb. 1992-1994.

**Keith E. Smith, Dept. of Nebraska.** Nat'l Foreign Relations Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1989-1990, Dept. Cmdr. 1992-1993, Nat'l Distinguished Guests Cmte. Vice Chmn. 1993-1995 and Nat'l Americanism Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1995-1996.

**Robert P. Pritoka, Dept. of Kentucky.** Nat'l Distinguished Guests Cmte. Vice Chmn. 1980-1984 and 1985-1990, Nat'l Legis. Cncl. Memb. 1985-1989 and Nat'l Americanism Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1991-2007.

**James T. Waters, Dept. of Tennessee.** Nat'l Veterans Preference Cmte. Memb. 1971-1972, Nat'l Foreign Relations Cncl. Memb. 1972-1973, Dept. Cmdr. 1978-1979, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Alt. Memb. 1984-1986, Nat'l Econ. Cmte. Liaison Memb. 1986-1988 and Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Memb. 1986-1988.

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*By the time a man realizes that his father was right, he has a son who thinks he's wrong.*

**AN IRAQI GENERAL** summons Saddam's 48 body doubles to a safe house in Iraq.

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The Iraqi general then turned to the doubles and says, "The bad news is he's lost an arm."

**IN HIS EARLY 50s**, Tom retired and started a second career. But he just couldn't seem to get to work on time. Every day, he was five, 10, even 15 minutes late. Tom was a good worker, though, so his boss was in a quandary about how to deal with it. Finally, he called him into the office for a talk.

"Tom, you do a bang-up job. It's odd, though, your coming in late. I know you retired from the Air Force. What did they say if you came in late?"

"They said, 'Good morning, general.'"

**A FELLOW WAS WALKING** along a country road when he came upon a farmer working in his field. The man called out to the farmer, "How long will it take me to get to the next town?"

The farmer didn't answer. The guy waited a bit and then started walking again.

After the man had gone about a hundred yards, the farmer yelled out, "About 20 minutes."

"Thanks. But why didn't you tell me that when I asked?"

"Didn't know how fast you could walk."



"Because your call is very important to us, we've added 79 new menu options."



"As I was saying before you so abruptly departed ..."



"Stop nagging me! I told you a half-hour ago I'd be dressed in a few minutes."

**IN THE FIRST YEAR** of marriage, the man speaks and the woman listens. In the second year, the woman speaks and the man listens. In the third year, they both speak and the neighbors listen.

**TWO COLLEGE STUDENTS** are riding on the subway when a beggar approaches them asking for spare change.

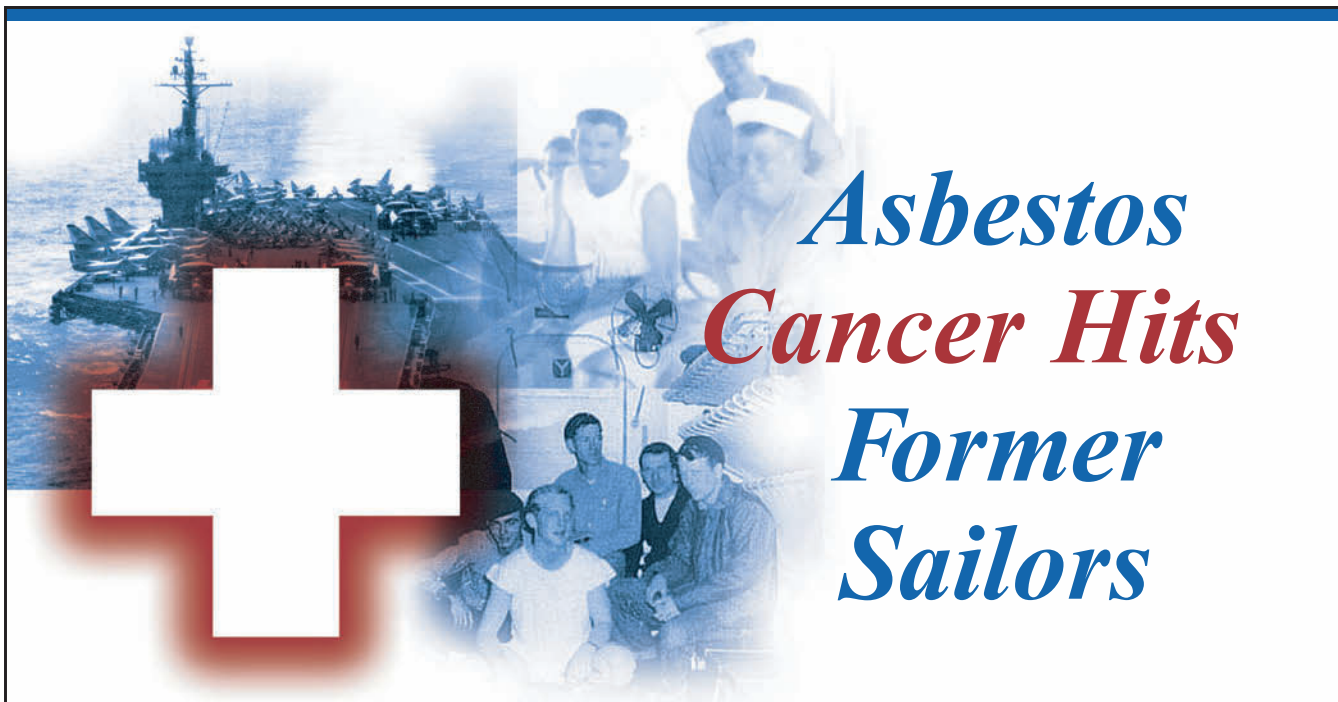
The first student ignores the man. The second student opens his wallet, pulls out a couple of dollars and hands them to the beggar with a smile.

"What did you do that for?" the first student shouted. "Don't you know he's going to use that to buy booze?"

"And we weren't?"

**"DID YOU HEAR THIS?** Computer hackers managed to shut down Twitter and my favorite, Facebook, for several hours. In a related story, yesterday American productivity jumped by 159 percent." – Conan O'Brien





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Ice House Blue

**ICE HOUSE**

Flannel-Lined TWILL SHIRTS

**\$15** each ALL SIZES

Rugged polyester & cotton twill fully lined w/ soft cotton/polyester flannel. Snap close, 2 big chest pockets, machine wash and dry.

Sizes S(34-36) M(38-40) L(42-44) XL(46-48) 2XL(50-52) 3XL(54-56) 4XL(58-60)

Burgundy

Tan

Black

Mustard

Blue

**NO-IRON Wash & Wear!**

Flannel-Lined PANTS

**2 pairs for 29<sup>99</sup>\***

3 for 42.65 4 for 55.25

**PANTS SIZES! Waist:**  
32 34 36 38 40 42 44

\*Big Men Sizes: 46 48 50  
add just \$5 more per pair

Inseams: XS(25-26) S(27-28) M(29-30) L(31-32) XL(33-34)

Haband #1 Bargain Place, Jessup, PA 18434-1834

Send \_\_\_\_\_ items. I enclose \$\_\_\_\_\_ purchase price plus \$5.99 toward postage. In GA add sales tax.

**Pants On-Line Quick Order:**

WHAT WAIST?	WHAT INSEAM?	HOW MANY?
6J GREY HEATHER		
8V ICE HOUSE BLUE		
02 TAN		
CW CHARCOAL CARGO		
03 NAVY		

**Shirts On-Line Quick Order:**

WHAT SIZE?	HOW MANY?
7T2-13029 BURGUNDY SHIRT	
05 BLUE SHIRT	
ME MUSTARD SHIRT	
01 BLACK SHIRT	

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**Shop Online: Haband.com**

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**100% Satisfaction Guaranteed or Full Refund of Purchase Price at Any Time!**